

REMINISCENCES & ANECDOTES
OF
GREAT MEN OF INDIA,

BOTH OFFICIAL AND NON-OFFICIAL FOR THE LAST
ONE HUNDRED YEARS.

EDITED & PUBLISHED

BY

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PREFACE.

Encouraged by the public appreciation as evinced by the sale of the entire edition of the first volume of this book within three months of its publication in different parts of India, we now place the second volume in our readers' hands, in the hope that our humble efforts in bringing to a focus the almost forgotten Reminiscences and Anecdotes of great men of India, both Native and European will be judged in the same indulgent spirit by our readers as they have done in regard to the first volume. The second and third chapters of this part, containing Reminiscences and Anecdotes of Deputy-Governors, Lieutenant-Governors of Bengal and the Governors-General of India are, no doubt, considering the vastness of their respective ranges, very meagre, but we must explain to our readers that our main and chief object in recording them is to preserve those only which have direct reference to native character and native history. We have also candidly to admit that unlike the first volume, we have not succeeded in rescuing from oblivion, a more copious Anecdotes and Reminiscences of Bombay and Madras in this volume. We respectfully appealed to some of the leading men of these Presidencies for information, and received some encouraging letters which we have published in this volume. Had we received more help from them, we could have performed our onerous and self-imposed task

with more ease and grace. Like the first, the second has no doubt, many defects both of omission and commission which, we earnestly hope, our readers will view with an indulgent and forgiving eye, as the task is beset in this country, with immense difficulties.

We tender our grateful thanks to all the Indian editors both vernacular and English of the different Presidencies of India, who favoured us, in response to our respectful and humble appeal with information of their respective journals. The tabular list of these journals is, no doubt, an incomplete one, and we beg to assure those whose names have not been included therein, that the omission was due to our want of space only.

And lastly we thankfully acknowledge that the publication of this little volume is due to the munificence of His Highness the Nawab Amir-ul-Omrah Bahadur, G.C.I.E., of Moorshidabad, Roy Hari Krishna Mozumdar, Bahadur of Islampur of the same city, and Babu Annuda Prosad Dey of Srerampore.

CALCUTTA

23, DOCTOR'S LANE TALTOLLA. }
15th June, 1895.

RAM GOPAL SANYAL.

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REMINISCENCES AND ANECDOTES GREAT MEN OF INDIA, BOTH EUROPEAN AND NATIVE.

PART—II.

CHAPTER—I.

THE REV. K. M. BANERJI. L. L. D.

(BORN IN 1813 AND DIED IN 1885.)

IN the first part of my book, I related some anecdotes of this great man.* Since the publication of this book, I found the following sketch of his early life in the *India Review* of 1842 which, I publish below for the delectation of my readers. The lamented Doctor Banerji stood foremost amongst the patriotic men of Bengal, and as a mark of my deep respect to him, I once thought of publishing a sketch of his life in my work called "The Bengal Celebrities," and appealed to his daughter and grandson for information on the subject. But, unfortunately for me, my appeal was not responded to. I then diligently searched the old files of newspapers and found the following which, I am sure, will be found interesting to those who care for the biographical literature of their own country.

"He was born in May, 1813. In February, 1824, he got admitted into the Hindu College, and there he commenced to learn Sanskrit while he prosecuted the study of English. In 1828 he lost

* Vide page 7 to 14. Part I.

his father who died after an attack of cholera, of 3 or 4 days continuance. He had been carried to a go-down-like room on the Strand that he might expire with a part of his body under the water of the Ganges. In the beginning of 1823 he was promoted to the first class of the Hindu College, about the middle of the same year obtained one of the Education Committee's scholarships, worth Rs. 16 a month. In the following year he was offered a mastership in the Delhi College with a salary of Rs. 80 a month. This appointment he, however, did not join. About this time he received a deserved castigation from Professor H. H. Wilson, then a visitor of the College, under the following circumstances. One of his class friends demanded of the College servant some fire in order to light a chillam, the man refused, and thereupon the Rev. K. M. Banerji and his friend assaulted him. The man lodged a formal complaint before the authorities who cut their scholarships for two months, and proclaimed their guilt and the penalty it incurred by hanging a placard for one week in a conspicuous part of the College. On the 13th of November 1829 he left the College, and was appointed assistant teacher in the Pattaldanga School of the School Society commonly called the Hare School.

Babu Prosunna Kamar Tagore having established the *Reformer* newspaper in 1831, the Rev. K. M. Banerji set up a newspaper in the month of May of the same year called the *Enquirer*. It was about this time he got an interview with the Rev. Dr. Duff whom he asked to open a course of lectures on the Natural and Revealed Religion for the benefit of the natives. In this way his mind was prepared for accepting Christianity. Captain Corbyn of the Royal Navy also induced him to accept Christianity. It was in the house of this Captain the Rev. K. M. Banerji read for three hours "Horn's Study of Scripture." Colonel Powney and another lay friend went one day with the Rev. K. M. Banerji to Sagar Island in a steamer. In this short voyage the Rev. K. M. Banerji suffered from sea-sickness, and felt great exhaustion. The European friends impressed upon his mind the Christian truths which enhanced his conversion to Christianity. It was in his own newspaper the *Enquirer*, that he announced his intention to embrace Christianity. (Vide p. 8. Part I.) After his baptism he continued for some months to attend on Sundays both the Scotch Church and one of the English Churches.

He generally went to the old church in the morning, and to St. Andrews in the evening. But the Scotch custom of praying in standing posture was not to his liking, and so he ceased to attend St. Andrews.

In 1833 he was brought by a writ of *Habeas Corpus* before the Judges of the Supreme Court, as if to answer for his conduct in having assisted one of his pupils (Babu Brojo Nath Ghose now of the Chyebasha School in Chota Nagpore) to make his escape from heathen persecution for the purpose of embracing Christianity. Sir Edward Ryan politely said from the Bench that he had allured the boy

from the house of his parents, and although the young babu was not and had never been under his or any other Christian's custody, yet because the father alleged he was under age, the court ordered upon the process of *Habeas Corpus*, that the boy should remain with his father. In the winter of the same year he made a tour through the N. W. Provinces. Soon after his return in 1835 from the Upper Provinces, he rescued with the aid of the Magistrate of the 24-Pergunahs (Mr. J. H. Paton) his wife from the custody of her parents. In 1836 a few young friends from the Medical College having simultaneously embraced Christianity, a schism was produced in the Church Mission Society, and the venerable Archdeacon Dealtry, and the Rev. K.M. Banerji were compelled to resign. Through the Archdeacon's kindness he obtained a scholarship at Bishop's College where he resided for a few months, and was ultimately ordained deacon upon Begum Sumru's funds on St. John Baptist's day, 1837.

The first sermon he preached was upon the death of Babu Mohesh Chunder Ghose, a convert. The very night he preached his funeral sermon he also performed the first Baptism of Babu Jodu Nath Ghose, a student of Bishop's College.

About the close of 1838, while he was called to assist in the duties of the chapel in the college, he baptized his younger brother on St. John's day, 1839.

On the 27th September, 1839, Christ Church was consecrated, and he received charge of its duties. On St. Luke's day of the same year he was ordained priest—*Hurk*, Nov. 1, 1842.

MUNSHI ROY KALINATH CHOWDHARY OF TAKI.

He died in 1840. The *Friend of India* in a long obituary thus wrote of him:—

"He was among the most devoted admirers and followers of Rajah Ram Mohun Roy, and assisted with him in the establishment of the Brahma Sova. He was foremost in the ranks of those who came forward to congratulate Lord William Bentinck on the abolition of Sauttee. He subsequently established an English Seminary at his family residence at Taki, in connection with the Mission of the General Assembly, which he continued in great part to maintain from his own funds. He also constructed a public road at an expense of eighty thousand rupees. We learn moreover that following the example of his friend and associate in liberality—Baboo Dwarka Nath Tagore—he has bequeathed a lac of rupees of which the interest is to be applied to public objects after his death."

MUNSHI BOIKUNTHA NATH ROY CHOWDHARY
OF TAKI.

He was the younger brother of Babu Kally Nath Roy Chowdhary. Baugundi was then one of the salt golahs of Government, under the control of Mr. Barlow, the Salt Agent. It was at the suggestion of this European gentleman, the Munshi Zemindar of Taki offered a lac of rupees for the construction of a road from Baraset to Baugundi. It is said that he offered this magnificent sum without the previous consent of his eldest brother, and naturally felt a scruple to see his brother and report to him what he had done. Kally Nath one day not seeing his youngest brother in his boituckhana room, enquired as to the cause of his absence. Coming to know that Boikuntha Nath has, without his previous consent, promised a lac of rupees for the road in question, he sent for him immediately, patted him on his shoulder, and expressed satisfaction at what he had done.

CAPTAIN DAVID LESTER RICHARDSON.

The *Bengal Herald* of January 20, 1839, reproduced the following sketch of the life of this great educationist from Dr. Corbyn's *India Review* for January of that year:

"He was the son of Col. D. T. Richardson of the Bengal establishment, the celebrated linguist and translator of eastern poetry whose literary talents have descended to his son.

Captain Richardson entered the Hon'ble Company's Service in 1819. In 1820, when in the freshness and buoyancy of youth, he made his debut as a poet. In 1822 he published a small volume of poems. In 1824, he was compelled from ill-health to return to Europe. In 1825, he published there his well-known volume entitled "Sonnets and other Poems." In 1827, he got up a periodical entitled "*The London Weekly Review*." In 1828, he disposed of this periodical to Mr. Colburn. In 1829, he returned to India. From the middle of the year 1829, to the end of 1836, he was employed in editing the *Calcutta Magazine*, the *Calcutta Literary*

Gazette,* and the *Bengal Annual*. About this time, he was unanimously elected Professor of literature in the Hindu College. On the publication of his "Sonnets and other Poems" in London, the Reviewers both metropolitan and provincial noticed it in highly flattering terms. When he published the *Weekly Review*, Mr. St. John Hazlitt, Mr. Bowring, Mr. Roscoe, Mr. Muir, Mr. Pringle contributed to its columns. Mr. John Murray was half the proprietor of this journal. The paper then passed into the hands of Mr. Colburn who subsequently changed its title into that of a Court Journal, to the total annihilation of Captain Richardson's interest and property therein. It was his unhappy circumstance that led the Captain to return to his military duties in India. Before he sailed for India, he was honoured with a public fare-well dinner at Freemason's Tavern, by the literary men of London, presided over by the Poet Thomas Campbell. He was of a middle size, with a splendid head full of intellectuality and thought."

On the first publication of Mr. Marshman's "History of Bengal" for the students, the Captain reviewed the book in the *Bengal Herald*, pointing out in a specific manner the dubious language in which the author had noticed the suicide of Lord Clive. A controversy arose between the author and the Captain on this subject, but the learned Captain in a letter published in the *Bengal Herald* of the 3rd February, 1839, maintained that Lord Clive committed suicide. The Captain wrote an admirable article "On a knowledge of the World" in its issue of the 10th February of that year.

HIS SELECTIONS FROM THE BRITISH POETS.

In 1840, he first published the above book, agreeably with the request of the Committee of Public Instruction and the suggestions of Mr. (afterwards Lord) Macaulay, and Sir Edward Ryan for the more advanced students of the Hindu College and other similar institutions, from the Baptist Mission Press, Calcutta.

CAPTAIN RICHARDSON AS PRINCIPAL OF THE KRISHNAGHUR COLLEGE.

It was on the 1st of January, 1846, the above College was opened with 470 students on its rolls with Captain D. L.

* He severed his connection with this paper in 1837.

Richardson as its first Principal. (Vide Part I, P. 54.) He remained there for one year only, and at the close of it he was transferred to the Hughly College. In 1854 the Managers of the Hindoo Metropolitan College presented him a gold watch. He retired from this country in 1857 when the Natives presented him with an address and a testimonial consisting of a silver breakfast service. (Vide F. I. April 16, 1857.)

MR. JOHN ELLIOT DRINKWATER BETHUNE, AND CAPTAIN RICHARDSON.

The *Friend of India* in its issue of the 17th January, 1850, published a letter from Messrs. H. Swinhoe, Attorney-at-Law in which the Editor was asked not to publish Mr. Bethune's speech at the distribution of the prizes to the students of the Hindu College held at the Town Hall on the 24th January, 1850, condemning Captain D. L. Richardson. If he should, he would be prosecuted. Mr. Bethune as President of the Council of Education brought a serious charge against the private character of D. L. Richardson who had resigned the office of Principal of the Hindu College.

CAPTAIN RICHARDSON AND HIS CANTANKEROUS PUPILS.

Mr. Francis Henry Bennet Skrine, C. S., Magistrate of Bhagulpore related the following anecdote in his article on the Life of Doctor Shumbhu Chunder Mukherji, the late Editor of the *Reis and Rayyet* in the *National Magazine* of 1894 :—

“Richardson was profoundly versed in Persian lore, a gift which once enabled him to stem an incipient revolt among his pupils. It was heralded, as usual, by shoals of anonymous letters conveying grave aspersions on the Principal's character. The latter posted at the College gate an *istahar* in the purest phraseology of Sa'adi, which began thus—“Forasmuch as certain scoundrels, the graves of whose fathers wild asses have defiled, have presumed to send me anonymous threats, this is to give notice, &c., &c.” The offence was not repeated.”

BABU JOY KRISHEN MUKHERJI'S CASE.

We take the following from the *Friend of India* of 10th April, 1862:—

About half a mile from Uttarpara is the small village of Moklah, the proprietors of which were a family of the name of Dhurs, who held it on trust out of the proceeds of the estate to keep up the worship of an idol. In 1853, Joy Krishen took a lease of two-thirds of Moklah from the Dhurs for ten years, in the name of one of his dependent Srinath Dutt. The rent paid for the two-thirds was 1,804 rupees a year. The lessee collected the rents from the actual occupiers, called ryots. The lease of the two-thirds yielded an annual profit of about Rs. 200. On Monday, the 2nd July, 1860, one Petambur Bose registered in Serampore a ten years' lease of the remaining one-third of Moklah, purporting to be granted to him by the Dhurs on the previous Saturday, at a rent of 902 rupees a year. On the Wednesday following, one Kally Kristo Roy Chowdhury registered in Hughly, a ten years' lease purporting to be granted to him by the Dhurs of the same one-third of Moklah, bearing the same date as that previously registered by Petambur Bose, but at an annual rent of 1,025 instead of 902 rupees. Five or six days after this latter registry, two of the Dhurs presented a petition to the Magistrate of Serampore, in which they declared that the lease set up by Petambur Bose was a forgery, got up by Joy Krishen whose servant they asserted Petambur to be. On the 23rd July, a formal charge of forgery was made by Kally Kristo Roy Chowdhury against Petambur Bose, and the attesting witnesses of Petambur's lease; but Babu Joy Krishen was not included among the persons accused. The four attesting ryots were subsequently transferred from the dock to the witness box, on the application of the prosecutor. Two of them then gave evidence to the effect that Joy Krishen had sent for them from their homes to his cutchery or counting house, and had there by threats compelled them to become witnesses to the lease to Petambur, some of the parties being present by whom it was forbidden to be executed. The other two declared that, a few days after the date of Petambur's lease, Joy Krishen had sent for them and told them that he had put their names or marks as of attesting witnesses on a lease granted to Petambur Bose, and had registered the lease so attested, and that if required they must swear that they had seen the lease executed. The prosecutor now charged Joy Krishen Mukherji with forgery, and after the case had been further investigated, Petambur Bose and he were tried before the Sessions Judge, assisted by a Mahomedan law officer. The latter pronounced both guilty, but the Judge, while agreeing as to Petambur's guilt, did not concur in the conviction of Joy Krishen, recording his opinion that the four attesting witnesses upon whose depositions Joy Krishen was implicated,

were not worthy of credit. Petumber Bose was accordingly sentenced to five years' imprisonment, and the case against Joy Krishen, was referred to the Nizamut Court for decision. The Judges Messrs. Trevor and Bayley, on the 31st of March last, pronounced Joy Krishen guilty of having procured forgery of the lease, and sentenced him to five years' imprisonment with a fine of 10,000 rupees in lieu of hard labour.

THE FURTHER HEARING OF HIS CASE.

The Mahomedan law officer considered Babu Joy Krishen Mukherji guilty, but Mr. Lillie, the Sessions Judge of Hughly, was, as stated in the *Friend of India* of May 9, 1861, of a contrary opinion, and referred the case against the latter to the Sudder. Babu Joy Krishen was admitted to bail on a personal security for Rs. 50,000. Mr. Newmarch was then sent to England to appeal to the Privy Council. The Jurisdiction of the Council in such a case is a discretionary one, and the Judges materially doubted the expediency of exercising it. But they entirely disapproved of the irregularity in the proceedings, and suggested an application to the Crown for pardon. The full report of this case appeared in the *Hurkura* of April 7, 1862, which, for want of space, we cannot reproduce here. In 1862, the Lieutenant-Governor released him from Jail, agreeably with the above recommendation.

THE EARLY HISTORY OF THE HUTWA RAJ.

The *Friend of India* in its issue of April 23, 1863, wrote thus :—

“ The present Maharajah of Hutwa in the Behar District of Saran, is the great-grandson of the deceased Maharajah Chhatturdhari Sahce who died at an advanced age some three years ago.* The estate held by Chhatturdhari was an ancient Raj or Principality in which the property had, for several generations, descended to the eldest son or his representative, under the right of primogeniture. Some years before the Decennial Settlement, “ Futteh Sahi,” the representative of the Raj rebelled against the Government, and his estate was attached. It was afterwards restored to Chhatturdhari when he was a minor. It was managed by the Court of Wards on

* Vide Part I, page 22.

his behalf, and on his attaining his majority it was restored to him. The title of Maharajah was conferred on him on the recommendation of Mr. Charles Tucker; a present of Rs. 50,000 being accepted from him at the same time, to be devoted to purposes of education. On his death his great-grandson succeeded to the estate, but his uncle disputed his claims as well as the Will which the deceased Rajah had left, declaring his great-grandson his sole heir. The case before the Lower Court at Chapra was conducted by Mr. William Taylor C. S., on behalf of the Rajah. The District Judge Mr. Wilkins, maintained the succession on the ground of the ancient custom, and set aside the attachment, but held the execution of the Will not proved.

The case was finally heard by the High Court by which it was decided that the great-grandson is to retain his Principality intact.

RAJAH RAM MOHUN ROY AND THE CHARTER ACT OF 1833.

A Civilian Mr. Melville endeavoured to get up a petition to the House of Lords for the purpose of inducing that body to reject any clause or provision in the Charter, enabling Natives to sit as Magistrates. Rajah Ram Mohun Roy was in England at that time, and defeated this shameful attempt on the part of Mr. Melville. (*Hurkura*, Feb., 24, 1838.)

THE NAMES OF EARLY CONVERTS BEFORE 1838.

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| From the Hindu College. | (6) Chundy Churn Addy. |
| (1) The Rev. K. M. Banerji. | (7) Joy Gopal Dutt. |
| (2) Mohesh Chunder Ghose. | (8) Gopal Chunder Mitter. |
| (3) Gopinath Nundy | (9) Dwarka Nath Banerji. |
| (4) Kally Kumar Ghose. | (10) Bany Madhub Mozumdar. |
| (5) Rusik Chunder Palit. | (Hurk, July, 18, 1838.) |

Babu Krishna Pal was the first Native Christian convert in Bengal. He was buried in the same ground where Dr. Carey was interred in Seerampore (*F. I.*, Jan. 2, 1840.)

THE LATE MR. NATHANIEL JOHN HALHED.

In the *Friend of India* of August, 9, 1838, appeared the following obituary notice of this great Bengali scholar. "Mr. Nathaniel John Halhed, one of the Judges of the Sudder Dewany Adalut, died during the last week. The name of Halhed is one that must be dear to Indian philanthropists.

His father, the early friend and associate of Sheridan, came out to this country in the Civil Service, during Lord Hastings's administration, and studied the Bengali language to such a perfection that he published a grammar of that language,—the first of its kind,—and moreover, so excellent in character, that all the efforts of subsequent philologists have not cast it into the shade. It was printed at Hughly, though at what press we have never been able to learn, neither can we ascertain how it happened that Hughly enjoyed a press before Calcutta. The Grammar was printed in 1778, and the first press established in Calcutta is generally supposed to have been in 1780. The Bengali types used in this grammar were cut with his own hands, by the late Sir Charles Wilkins. Mr. Halhed subsequently published a code of Gentoo laws, and eventually returned to his native land.

His son acquired under his father's tuition such a knowledge of the colloquial Bengali language, as to be almost without a rival. The late Dr. Carey used to consider him the first Bengali scholar in the country. Many anecdotes were formerly current of his astounding familiarity with this tongue. He used to dress himself as a native and went through all the gambling shops, conversing freely with the natives with such a fluency that no one could detect him. It is said that on another occasion, while at Burdwan, having been solicited to give proof of his knowledge of the Bengali tongue, he took part in a Jattrā (singing party) given by the Maharajah of Burdwan for the delectation of Europeans, and joined the native singers in their chants and recited them with such marvellous command that they could not detect him. It is greatly to be regretted that the notices of these eminent men should be so meagre. What is recorded of the elder Halhed, of Bentley, of Barrow, of Wilkins, of Cleveland and of many other eminent characters whom we could name? Their names and an occasional allusion in the public records to their services, are all that we possess!"

DR. AFTERWARDS SIR, F. MOUAT.

The *Friend of India* in a leading article published in its issue of the 20th April 1854, when Dr. Mouat retired from this country passed a high eulogium on him. He received the following allowances for the various appointments held by him. He was a pluralist in every sense of the term :—

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|------------|
| Secretary to the Council of Education | ... | 200 | per mensem |
| Professor of Medicine | ... | 400 | |
| Consolidated allowance for every thing else, military pay inclusive | ... | 400 | " |
| Total | | ... | 1,000 |

Dr. Mouat was a great friend of the natives. English education in this country could not have made such rapid strides without the earnest and sympathetic exertions of this great educationist.

Dr. Mouat once ordered the prisoners in Bengal Jails to shave their beards, but the irritation this order produced led to its immediate withdrawal.

MR. JAMES PRINSEP.

Mr. Horace Hayman Wilson wrote the following sketch of Mr. Prinsep's career in India in the *Asiatic Journal* of 1840. It was reproduced in the *Englishman* of July 3rd, of that year:—

"Mr. Prinsep went to India in 1819, as assistant Assay Master in the Calcutta Mint, and in the following year was appointed Assay Master in the Mint of Benares. He contributed valuable articles on experimental philosophy to the *Researches* of the Asiatic Society of Bengal and the *Transactions* of the Royal Society. While at Benares, he gave to the public a series of highly characteristic delineations of its scenery and buildings. He was distinguished for his scientific attainments in chemistry, mineralogy, and meteorology. The new Calcutta Mint having been completed in 1830, the Benares Mint was abolished, and Mr. Prinsep came back to Calcutta as assistant Assay Master. In 1832, he was elevated to the post of Assay Master. In that year, when Mr. Herbert who edited the paper left India, he undertook the continuance of a very valuable publication called—The "Gleanings in Science" a Monthly Journal of 100 pages, to which he gave the form and designation of Journal of

the Asiatic Society, with the concurrence of the Society of Bengal. This publication was a monument of his versatile talents and indefatigable industry. He then turned his attention to inscriptions and Numismatics. He first made out the legends on the reverses of the Sassanian coins,—on the ancient coins of Surat, and on the coins of the Hindu Princes of Lahore, and their Mahomedan successors, and formed alphabets of them, by which they can be readily perused. It is to him, we are indebted for the fact that the rocks of Cuttack and Guzerat preserve the names of Antiochus and Ptolemy, and record the intercourse of an Indian Monarch with his neighbours in Persia and Egypt. In addition to his official duty, and on the departure of H. H. Wilson, he was appointed in 1832, Secretary to the Mint Committee, Secretary to the Asiatic Society, and member of the Education Committee."

He died in 1840. His memory has been perpetuated by calling a ghat in his name known as the "Prinsep's Ghat." A public meeting was held in the Town Hall on the 30th July to take steps for the perpetuation of his memory. On the motion of Sir Edward Ryan, Dr. Grant was voted to the chair. He then read the address written by Mr. Rattray who, from indisposition could not attend the meeting. Mr. J. S. Torrens proposed that the Resolution, appended to Mr. Rattray's address, expressive of the feeling of regret, &c., for the loss of so great and good a man be adopted. It was seconded and agreed to unanimously. Sir John Grant proposed that a spacious ghat be erected on the banks of the river above the Fort and below the Governor-General's Ghat. Dr. O'Shaughnessy then proposed the appointment of a committee to carry the above Resolution into effect. He offered a medal to be given to the students of the Medical College in honour of Mr. Prinsep. The committee consisted of Sir E. Ryan, H. H. Rattray, Esq., Majors Irwin and Forbes, H. M. Parker, Esq., Rajah Radha Kant Deb, and Moulvi Keramut Ali. Pundit Kamalakant of the Hindu College read a poem on behalf of the Pundits of Bengal. The Hon'ble W. W. Bird, Esq., paid high eulogium on the great man on behalf of Government. Dr. N. Wallich attended the meeting, as a representative of the Medical and Physical Society.

THE ORIGIN OF THE DHARMA SOVA.

The Dharma Sova was established in 1838, to procure the restoration of the rite of Suttee. Babu Bhubani Churn Banerji, the Editor of the *Chundrika* was appointed its Secretary. The Sova sent Mr. Francis Bathie to England as their representative to agitate there for the abrogation of this law. The case was argued before the Privy Council, and Mr. Sergeant Spankie, the former Advocate-General of Calcutta, late Conservative Member for Finsbury, pleaded on behalf of the Sova. But the Council upheld the law prohibiting Suttee passed by Lord Bentinck.

Mr. Francis Bathie was a Deputy-Sheriff of Calcutta for sometime and died in 1840. (*F. I. March*, 19, 1840.)

DR. CHARLES.

We read the following in the *Hindu Patriot* of the 1st January, 1883 :—

The death is announced of Dr. Charles, the veteran Missionary at the ripe old age of 80 years. The elder generation of the educated Natives of Calcutta may recall to mind the many eloquent addresses which he delivered to them when he was the head of the General Assembly's Institution in this city. There was a memorable incident in his connection during his residence in Calcutta which we may mention. David Hare died, and no Christian Minister would attend his funeral, because the great philanthropist was somewhat free and independent in his religious opinions. It was Dr. Charles, who had the charity to give him a Christian burial.

BABU RAM LOCHUN GHOSE, FATHER OF MR. M. M. GHOSE.

A respectable and well-attended meeting of the inhabitants of Dacca was held on the 11th June, 1833, to memorialize the Court of Directors to obtain the large fund bequeathed by the late R. Mitford Esq., for the general improvement and the benefit of the city of Dacca.

Mr. R. Doucett, on the motion of the Rev. H. R. Shepherd seconded by Dr. Taylor was voted to the chair.

The first Resolution was moved by Babu Ram Lochun Ghose, seconded by Nundo Lal Munshi that a memorial be addressed to the Hon'ble the Court of Directors, praying that they might act as Trustees for the fund bequeathed by the late R. Mitford, Esq., and to secure its appropriation in accordance with the Will of the deceased for the general benefit of the city of Dacca.

Babu Ram Lochun Ghose, in an appropriate speech, expatiated on the liberality and philanthropy of the British nation, and paid a just tribute of respect to the memory of the late Mr. R. Mitford, for his munificent bequest, and commented on the proverbial apathy of his own countrymen, recommending the opulent portion of them to imitate this noble example. (*Hurk*, June, 26, 1838.)

INAUGURAL MEETING FOR THE FORMATION OF THE LANDHOLDERS' SOCIETY.

A public meeting was held on Monday the 19th March, 1838, at the Town Hall for the above purpose. Among those present, were Rajahs Baroda Kant Deb Roy, Raj Narain Roy, Radha Kant Bahadur, Kally Krishen Bahadur, Babus Prosunna Kumar Tagore, Ram Komul Sen, Romanath Tagore, Lucksmay Narain Mukherji, Abhoy Churn Bannerji, Promotho Nath Deb, Ram Ruttun Roy, Uday Chand Bysak, Raj Krishen Chowdhury, Satya Churn Ghosal, Mothura Nath Mullick, Munshi Amir, and Mahomed Amir, and among Europeans, there were Mr. T. Dickens, Mr. Geo. Prinsep, and Mr. David Hare.

Rajah Radha Kant was voted to the chair. He in accepting the chair said that, the Maharajah of Krishnaghur was expected to take the chair but he was not present at the meeting. In his absence, the chair, ought to have been taken

by Rajah Baroda Kant Roy. The resumption of rent-free lands was the greatest grievance they had to complain of, and circumstances pointed out the expediency of forming a Society. Union is strength, and with united efforts on the parts of Bengal Zemindars, the Society would keep watch over the measures of Government.

Rajah Kally Krishna Bahadur moved a Resolution for the formation of the Society, seconded by Rajah Raj Narain Roy of Andul. Mr. Theodore Dickens then read the English prospectus of the Society published in the *Hurkura* of the 17th March, 1838.

The Chairman then intimated to the meeting that, at a preliminary meeting held in the Hindu College, Babus P. K. Tagore, Ram Komul Sen, and Bhubani Churn Mitter and himself prepared a set of rules which were then read, Mr. T. Dickens having read an English translation thereof. Rajah Raj Narain moved that the rules be adopted. Rajah Kally Krishen seconded the Resolution. Mr. Dickens then addressed the meeting as follows :—

Gentlemen, I congratulate you upon the occasion of our meeting, and upon the carrying of the Resolutions already moved, which give existence and consistency to our Society. As already an incipient jealousy of it has been displayed, I think it necessary to speak of my own reasons for coming forward, which otherwise I should not have touched upon. I am a proprietor of Indigo Factories of considerable value. I am besides by the grant of Government, a proprietor of lands in Gorruckpore, which I trust I shall be enabled by care to render productive and bequeath to my children. Thus should I chance to leave this country, my connexion with it will remain, and I am sure, you will rejoice with me, when you reflect that from the change of policy which enables Englishmen to acquire property, this is not likely to be a solitary example; but the connexion between both countries must needs become daily closing in all things, to the increase of knowledge, of kindliness of feeling, and I trust, to the improvement of both classes. I congratulate you gentlemen, on the formation of the first Society for political objects which has ever been organized by the natives of India with large and liberal views, without exclusiveness, and with ends and aims of extensive utility.

Babu Ram Komul Sen then moved that Messrs. T. Dickens and G. Prinsep, Babus Prosunna Kumar Tagore, Dwarka Nath Tagore, Rajah Raj Narain Roy, Rajah Kally Kishen Bahadur, Babus Ashu Tosh Deb, Ram Ruttun Roy, Ram Komul Sen, Munshi Amir, Kumar Satya Churn Ghoshal, and Rajah Baroda Kant Roy be elected to form a committee for the year. The motion was seconded by Roy Kally Nath Chowdhry. On the motion of Kumar Satya Churn Ghoshal, seconded by Babu Kally Nath Chowdhry, a subscription book was opened for its maintenance. The following gentlemen then enlisted themselves as members of this Society :—

Rajah Bhoirabendra Narain Roy of Puteah, Srimuty Maharani Kristomony by Kashinath Sanyal, Rajshahye, Rajah Baroda Kant Roy of Jessore, Srimuty Rani Katyawany by Dewan Debee Prosad Roy ; Babus Ram Ruttun Roy of Narail, Rai Kally Nath Chowdhry of Taki, Rai Ram Bullab, Tara Prosad Roy Chowdhry, Nil Komul Pal Chowdhry of Ranaghat, Joy Chand Pal Chowdhry of the same House, Surup Chunder Sircar of Shebanibash in the District of Nuddea, Prannath Chowdhry, Uday Narain Mondol, Umesh Chunder Roy *alias* Muty Babu of Santipore, Muthura Mohun Biswas, Bamun Das Mukherji of Ulla (Nuddea), Sumbhunath Mukherji, (Ulla), Ishur Chunder Mustaffi (Ulla), Bishopath Mutty Lal, Ishan Chunder Roy of Santipore, Modhu Shudan Sanyal, Rughuram Goswami of Serampore, A. C. Dunlop, Esq., Owen John Ellias, Esq., Messrs. Dawson & Co., Munshi Golam Nuby Mahomed Amir, David Hare, Esq., George Prinsep, Esq., Messrs. Carr Tagore & Co., Mackillop Stewart & Co., T. Dickens, Esq., Alexander Binny, Esq., Munshi Habibul Hossain, R. J. Bagshaw, Esq., and Amanudin, Vakil, of the Sudder Dewany Adalat and various other gentlemen of Calcutta. (*Hurk*, March 21st, 1838.)

It was amalgamated with the British Indian Association in 1851.

MR. DAVID HARE AND THE LIBERATION OF COOLIES.

In the *Hurkura* of September, 15, 1838, appeared an affidavit made by Mr. David Hare, before Mr. C. K. Robinson, the Police Magistrate of Calcutta. Mr. Longueville Clarke, Barrister-at-Law, and Mr. David Hare waited on the Magistrate for the liberation of some coolies who were forcibly being taken away to the Mauritius. They were confined in a house at Thunthunia. Mr. Hare and Mr. Clarke went to the house with a Police Inspector under the orders of the Magistrate and got them liberated. So, Mr. David Hare was a liberator of the oppressed Indian coolies to the Island of Mauritius.

NAWAB MURSHEDKULY KHAN AND THE STATE OF THE COUNTRY IN 1725.

He reigned from 1700 to 1725. Mr. Herklots of Chinsurah in a letter to the *Bengal Hurkura* of July 3, 1847, stated that the Nawab maintained the peace of the country with only 6000 troops, *viz.*, two thousand cavalry and four thousand infantry, and remitted a crore of rupees as revenue to Delhi. Rice was sold at 4 maunds per rupee. He prohibited exportation of rice. The next Nawab Ali Verdikhan reigned from 1740 to 1755. From 1700 to 1786, the price of shells (coury) was at the rate of 32 *puns* for the rupee. In that year it fell to 67 *puns*.

MR. STUART HOGG, C. S., CHAIRMAN OF THE JUSTICES OF CALCUTTA.

We take the following anecdote from the *Hindu Patriot* of 1871 :—

Here is a story too good to be lost. Mr. Hogg, the worthy Chairman of the Justices, was last week arrested by the Commissioner of Police. Those who know that Mr. Hogg is also Commissioner

of Police, may laugh at our statement, but we can assure them that it is a positive fact. It arose in this way. Mr. Hogg, while in England lately lost a portmanteau, and gave notice of it to the Police. The thing has now turned up in Allahabad, and the Magistrate of that city summoned him to come over and give evidence. Mr. Hogg excused himself, saying that press of business would not allow him to be absent from his post, and that he did not care for the goods lost. The Magistrate replied that the case having come before him he could not strike it off on that ground. He accordingly sent a warrant and requested Mr. Hogg to have it served on himself in his capacity of Commissioner of Police and to come over without delay. Mr. Hogg has, as a matter of course, proceeded to Allahabad to give his evidence. The cream of the joke is that he is to bear himself the travelling charges !"

MR. STUART HOGG AND THE HON'BLE JUSTICE CHUNDER MADHUB GHOSE.

Babu (afterwards the Hon'ble Justice) Chunder Madhub Ghose was a Deputy-Magistrate of Burdwan under Mr. Hogg who was then District Magistrate of that place. Babu Chunder Madhub, it is said, incurred the displeasure of Mr. Hogg, and was dismissed for a trivial offence. Fortunately for him, this dismissal changed his career for good. He then enrolled himself as a Vakil of the High Court, practised there with great forensic ability, and at last sat on its Bench with honor to himself and to the glory of his race.

This is not the only instance of its kind. The Venerable Pundit Ishur Chander Vidyasagar resigned his appointment as Inspector of Schools in 1858 in consequence of the ill-treatment of Mr. Gordon Young, the then Director of Public Instruction, and took to the profession of writing school-books for his maintenance. Ever since this unhappy incident, he sedulously avoided the company of Europeans. The late Babu Kishory Chand Mitter lost his appointment in 1858 as a Calcutta Junior Police Magistrate for having collided with Mr. Wauchope, and to quote the words of the Hon'ble Kristo Das Pal, in his obituary notice in 1873, "the earthen pot

shared the fate which usually attends a collision with the brass kettle." Instances of such collision might be multiplied, but we refrain from doing so.

R. B. CHAPMAN Esq., C. S.

The *Hindu Patriot* wrote the following in 1881 when he retired :—

He first came to public notice as an Inspector of Schools under the Education Despatch of 1854. He and Mr. Hodgson Pratt were the two Civilian Inspectors, who threw their whole heart into the work, and did much in starting the new educational system. He was a leading member of the Vernacular Literature Society, which has been since incorporated with the School-Book Society. For several years he served as the Senior Secretary to the Board of Revenue, and in those days it was believed that it was his hand which chiefly pulled the wires of the Board. Were it not for the cloud of the Orissa Famine his services in the Board would have merited the highest praise. He was then appointed Presidency Commissioner, and in that capacity he imparted new life into the work of his Division. On the retirement of Mr. E. H. Lushington he was appointed the Financial Secretary to the Government of India by Lord Lawrence, and in that capacity he has served five successive Viceroys for a period of about thirteen years.

Mr. R. B. Chapman was a conscientious good Christian, and freely mixed with the natives. We saw him at the marriage party of Babu Ramtonoo Lahiree's daughter in 1868.

MR. V. H. SCHALCH.

The *Hindu Patriot* of 1877 wrote thus of him :—

After a career of nearly thirty-five years Mr. V. H. Schalch leaves this country. As Collector of Balasore, as Commissioner of the Presidency Division, as Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality, as Chairman of the Port Commissioners, and as a Member of the Board of Revenue, he displayed great ability and energy, and much common sense. He will be long remembered in the capital for the blessing of the water supply, and for the magnificent works, which have been executed under his guidance and supervision for the improvement and beautification of the port. Besides his usual official work, he laboured hard as Chairman of the Famine Committees

in 1866-67 and in 1873-74. For nearly fourteen years he has been *ex-officio* a member of the Bengal Legislative Council, and much labour devolved upon him in that capacity. He was unfortunately not much appreciated by the Government of India. Lord Canning's discerning eye discovered his talents and abilities, and his Lordship deputed him to Oudh to report on the dealings of certain officers in Government securities in Northern India during the Mutinies (Vide p. 121-122 Part I.)

MR. HENRY PALMER.

As Superintendent of Stamps he was tried by a Commission on the following charges : (1) that Mr. Palmer wrote to Rajah Sutya Churn Ghoshal on the 8th February, 1849, offering an appointment in the Stamp Office to any one who would assist him with Rs. 45,000 ; (2) that in April or May last, he intimated to one Radha Madhub Mukherji, that a loan of Rs. 30,000 was necessary as a condition to a nomination to the Office of Tavildar of Stamps ; (3) that he entered into joint pecuniary transactions with Durga Prosad Mukherji, the then Tavildar for the purpose of raising loans for his own benefit ; (4) that on the 2nd of August, 1849, he jointly with Durga Prosad borrowed 500 rupees from Bhowirub Chunder Palit, upon a Promissory Note. The commission consisted of Mr. Harvey and Mr. Ranken. This enquiry was made under Lord Cornwallis's Code of 1798. The Act XXVI of 1839 made all these enquiries a public affair. (*F. I.* November, 1, 1849.)

MR. CHARLES TROWER.

(CASES OF EMBEZZLEMENTS IN WHICH CIVILIANS WERE
MULCTED OF THEIR PAY.)

As Collector of Calcutta he was held responsible for an embezzlement of Rs. 18,576 from his department. Out of this sum Rs. 14,516 were realized by retrenchment from his allowances.

MR. E. T. TAYLOR.

As Collector of Tipperah he had to suffer a retrenchment to the tune of Rs. 514 from his allowances on account of an embezzlement in his District.

Mr. Collins of Mymensingh was held responsible for a heavy defalcation of Rs. 11,153 from the Stamp Department. (*Englishman*, Feb., 9, 1837.)

THE HON'BLE MR. C. C. STEVENS.

In 1879, when he was Magistrate of our native District of Nuddea, a heavy defalcation of about ten lakhs of rupees took place in the Road Cess Fund. The perpetrator of this wicked deed was Banee Gopal Mukherji. In the columns of the *Hindoo Patriot* and the *Statesman* we discribed in detail the gigantic character of these embezzlements. It was Lord Lytton who wrote a scathing Resolution on this subject which we sent to Mr. Robert Knight, Editor of the *Statesman*. It was published in the Evening Edition of that paper. Mr. C. C. Stevens was ordered to pay certain sums of money from his pay to recoup the Government loss, but after some time, he was exempted from this infliction.

A PUBLIC MEETING IN HONOUR OF MR. JOHN SULLIVAN, LATE OF THE MADRAS CIVIL SERVICE.

On the 18th April, 1843, a public meeting was held in the Town Hall for presenting an address to Mr. John Sullivan, late of the Madras Civil Service, expressive of the gratitude of the Natives for his advocating the substitution of Native for European Agency in the civil administration of the country, in conformity with the 87th Section of the Charter Act of 1833. Mr. Adam Frere Smith, the Sheriff was in the chair.

Babu Debendra Nath Tagore moved the first Resolution thanking Mr. Sullivan "for his efforts, in the Court of Proprietors of India Stock, on the 21st December, 1842, to obtain for the Natives the benefit of the 87th Section of the Charter Act of 1833. Babu Ram Gopal Ghose in an eloquent speech seconded it. Babu Baroda Kant Roy moved the second Resolution presenting an address to him. Babu Kishory Chand Mitter seconded the above Resolution, and Rajah Kali Krishna Bahadur moved the third Resolution to the effect that Sir Charles Forbes Bart, Major General Briggs, Mr. Sergeant Gasilie, Francis Carnac Brown, Esq., John Lewis, and John Forbes, Esq., present this address to him on behalf of the Natives of Calcutta. Rajah Norendra Krishna Bahadur, seconded it. Babu Dakhina Runjun Mukherji moved the fourth Resolution presenting a memorial to the Court of Proprietors of last India Stock in support of Mr. Sullivan's proposal. Babu Chunder Shekhar Deb seconded it. Babu Tara Chand Chuckerbutty moved the fifth Resolution thanking the members of the Court of Proprietors who supported Mr. Sullivan's proposal. Babu Shama Churn Sen seconded it. Babu Kala Chand Sett moved the sixth Resolution to form a Committee to give effect to the above Resolutions. Babu Ramtonoo Lahiree seconded it. Babu Peary Chand Mitter moved a vote of thanks to the Sheriff, seconded by Babu Ram Gopal Ghose. (*The Bengal Herald*, April 22, 1843.)

REMINISCENCES OF MR. GEORGE THOMPSON.

The *Hindu Patriot* of November, 4th, 1878 contains the following :—

Our readers will be grieved to learn that their quondam Parliamentary friend Mr. George Thompson is dead. It is stated that this melancholy event took place on the 7th ultimo. More than thirty years ago, Mr. Thompson came to this country, and the Balakhana Hall, where used to be gathered the flower of Indian youths, resounded with his eloquence. It was at his feet, we might

say, Ramgopal Ghose, Rushick Krishna Mullick, Krishnamohun Banerji, Dukhinarunjun Mukherji, Pearychand Mitter, and their compeers learnt the art of elocution and took lessons in politics. Mr. Thompson's speeches gave the first direct impulse to political agitation by the educated natives of this country. The most memorable stand he made in the House of Commons on behalf of India was on the Sattara question. He took an active part in the abolition of Slavery in America, and many were the thrilling anecdotes which we heard from his own lips about his adventures in the West Indies, which he visited for the purpose of collecting facts about Slavery. The rage of personality in the Indian Press ran so high at the time of Mr. Thompson that Mr. James Hume, then Editor of the *Eastern Star*, descended so low as to call him Cooly Grievance Thompson. In 1855 Mr. Thompson returned to India and put up with the late Hon'ble Prosunno Kumar Tagore and Babu Kissory Chand Mitter. Mr. Thompson was most brilliant in conversation, and his native friends greatly enjoyed his society whenever they met him. Latterly he suffered much distress. He was about seventy-five years of age. May his soul rest in peace !

Thus wrote Babu Kristo Dass Pal, on the spur of the moment without referring to books or old newspapers.

It appears from the address delivered by Mr. George Thompson at the Annual Meeting of the Glasgow Society for promoting the extinction of Slavery and the Slave Trade, and the improvement of the condition of the Natives of India, published in the *British Friend of India Magazine* for September, 1844, and reproduced in the *Calcutta Star*, of November, 18, 1844, that he came to India in 1842, and held "weekly meetings" which led to the formation of the Bengal British India Society. He also worked with the Bengal Landholders' Society. It was during this visit, he saw the Rajah of Sattara at Benares, and promised to help him in the "management of his case." He also visited Bombay and Madras. On the 5th July, 1845, the Court of Directors held a meeting at which, Mr. Thompson made a representation, on behalf of the deposed Rajah of Sattara. Sir Henry Willock presided on the occasion. He came out to India, as the representative of the Glasgow Emancipation Society. In his address before this Association, he said that the objects which occupied his

attention were "the Hill Cooly System of Slavery, the oppressive land-tax, the opium and salt monopolies." The *India Review* of 1843 contained a portrait and sketch of his life. In that year, he delivered three eloquent speeches at the Mechanics' Institute, which was then on its wane. These speeches roused public interest in this institution. Mr. Thompson attended the meeting of the Landholders' Society held on the 20th March, 1843, and drafted a letter to the Government on the Registration Act I of 1843, on behalf of the Association. At the annual dinner of the Agricultural Society held in January, 1843, he delivered a most eloquent address which was reproduced in the *Bengal Herald* of the 28th instant. Besides these, he delivered speeches at the "Society for the acquisition of general knowledge," established by Babu Ram Gopal Ghose and his fellow-students. Before his arrival in India, he took great interest in Indian affairs, as would appear from the following history of

THE BRITISH INDIA SOCIETY OF LONDON.

"It was formed in 1840. Its eloquent representative Mr. George Thompson delivered lectures on Indian topics in Lancashire and Manchester. In the populous towns of Ashton and Stalybridge, his lectures were highly appreciated. Mr. William Adonis, late of Calcutta, but now Professor of Oriental Literature in Howard University, Massachusetts, North America, delivered lectures on Indian subjects. Fifteen hundred copies of speeches delivered by Major Gen. Briggs, and Mr. George Thompson were published by the Society at this time."

THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE BRITISH INDIA SOCIETY.

Was held in London on the 5th July, 1840. Sir Charles Forbes subscribed £500 towards its continuance. The Report

of its proceedings was read by Mr. Browning, formerly of the Madras Civil Service. A. J. Lewis, Esq., moved a Resolution to the following effect :—

“That the Government and the people of this empire were responsible to the civilized world for the maintenance and administration of British rule in India, on such principles as should promote the happiness and improvement of the Native population.”

Mr. Wedder Phillips of Boston moved the next Resolution “that it is desirable to develop the resources of India which would produce important moral and social effects on the West Indies and America.”

Mr. O’Connell then moved the next Resolution.

“That this meeting is of opinion that the oppressive and fluctuating amount of the land revenue, the general resumption by the Indian Government of demand on lands hitherto held rent-free ; the imperfection and corruption in the administration of police and justice ; the maintenance of vexatious monopolies, are evils which ought to receive the immediate attention of the Government of this country, as tending to produce discontent among the Native population” &c. (*F. I.* October, 1, 1840.)

BRITISH INDIA SOCIETY IN ENGLAND AND ITS ORGAN.

It published a monthly Journal, as its organ in London called the *British Indian Advocate*, edited by Mr. William Adam. The first issue of this Journal appeared in 1841. Mr. Adam thus explained the object of the publication :—

“One of the ends contemplated is, to make this Journal a medium of communication between the people of England and the people of India, faithfully representing the sentiments of each to the other on all the great questions that affect their common rights and interests, &c., &c., &c.”

A Branch Association of this Society was formed by him in Calcutta in 1843, as would appear from the following :—

THE BENGAL BRITISH INDIAN SOCIETY.

Was established on the 20th April, 1843, with Mr. George Thompson in the chair. The principal speakers were Mr.

George Thompson, Mr. G. F. Speede, Mr. Crowe, and Babu Ram Gopal Ghose. (See the full report in the *Hurkura* of Monday, 23, April, 1843.) At a general meeting of this Society held on the 8th June, 1843, Babu Ram Gopal Ghose was elected one of its Vice-Presidents. The Society expressed its regret at the departure of Mr. George Thompson for Delhi, having been appointed Ambassador of the Emperor of Delhi.

Difficulties were thrown in the way of his intercourse with the Emperor of Delhi, by Mr. Metcalfe, the British Agent at the Court of Delhi. Mr. Thompson acted as an Agent of the Anti-Slavery Society, and Secretary to the Anti-Corn League of London.

It appears from the above that the British Committee of the National Congress now established in London is a mere imitation of what the London British India Society did in 1840 for the ventilation of Indian grievances and wants.

Under what peculiar circumstances, Mr. George Thompson came out again to this country immediately before the Sepoy Mutiny is not known to us. Even the late Hon'ble K. D. Pal could not throw any public light on this matter. He, however, left this country in the midst of that Revolt when, perhaps it was considered not politic to remain in this country for political agitation.

Some of the speeches of this great orator have been published in the form of a book by Babu Raj Jogeshur Mitter of Bhowanipore.

MR. JOHN COCHRANE.

He was called to the Bar in 1824, and for several years practised in Madras, where his energy and wonderful industry made him the delight of the suitors and the dread of the Supreme Court Bench. He then came to Calcutta where he was appointed Standing Counsel. Indignant at a junior.

to himself being several times appointed to act as Advocate-General and mortified at Mr. Turton getting the Advocate-Generalship he resigned the office of the Company's Standing Counsel, and in 1840, joined the Bombay Bar. Here he ably defended the European Proprietors of the *Bombay Times* in a case of contempt brought by the Chief Justice, Sir Henry Roper with great ability (*vide* p. 110-111 Part I.) Under what circumstance, he again came back to the Calcutta Bar, we do not know. In 1849 he accepted the office of Official Assignee and retained it till he retired.

He wrote a very learned pamphlet called "the Defence of the Dya Bhaga. Examination of judgment of the Judicial Committee in *Tagore vs : Tagore*." It was reviewed in the *Hindu Patriot* of June 9, 1873.

MR. JOHN COCHRANE AT THE MEMORIAL MEETING OF
LORD CANNING HELD BY THE NATIVES IN 1862.

It was called by the British Indian Association. The Bengal Chamber of Commerce, the Trade's Association, and other European public bodies refused to join in the movement. Among the few Europeans present at the meeting, there were Messrs. Harrington, Grey, Young, Erskine, Eden, Wallace, Cochrane, Hume, Piffard, Fergusson and Dove. Mr. Walter Brett moved an amendment at the meeting to the effect that the address be presented to the retiring Viceroy on behalf of the Natives of India, and not in the name of Anglo-Indians. His amendment not being seconded by any one, was negatived. Mr. John Cochrane was on the side of the Natives. It was for this unpardonable offence, the *Englishman* taunted him with the opprobrious epithet of "Babu Cochrane." The ever-memorable address of the Natives of Calcutta to Lord Canning was drawn up by Mr. Cochrane. At a meeting held on the 29th March 1869, the British Indian Association presented an

address to this great friend of the Natives, on his departure for Europe.

MR. COCHRANE AND THE HON'BLE K. D. PAL.

It was Mr. Cochrane who saved the late Hon'ble Kristo Das Pal from being punished at the famous libel case brought by Mr. Franklin Prestage, the Agent of the Eastern Bengal Railway authorities in 1868 by effecting out a compromise between him and the Agent.

MR. WALTER BRETT, EDITOR OF THE *ENGLISHMAN*.

Moved an amendment at the Canning memorial meeting presided over by Mr. David Cowie. He made the following speech :—

“Before any amendment was put to the meeting, he wished to say a few words and with their permission to be better heard, he would give himself a temporary elevation (by mounting on a table.) He came there in his public duty as a journalist and nothing more, and to give his fullest support to the meeting as he understood it to be, and that was a purely native one to do honour to a man to whom honour was due, and to whom they owed so much and to whom the highest praises should be awarded, but from the way the meeting had gone on, and from the course it was taking he felt compelled to fulfil a yet higher duty than what he came for and raise his voice in opposition. He stood there knowing that he represented the European population of Calcutta. (Loud uproar, derisive shouts and cries of no ! no !) If they would remain quiet, they would understand what he was going to say : he would beg to move an amendment upon what had been put and every one would agree to it.

It has been said that it was a public meeting, so that the gentlemen who had objected put themselves upon the footing of attendants on the meeting, and he also as such an attendant begged to have the resolution as it originally stood and with this amendment, “The Native Inhabitants of Calcutta with the concurrence of the European gentlemen whose names are appended.”

In making this amendment he would repeat that he came there with the intention of heartily supporting the address through the press, believing it to be a just and proper one as far as

natives were concerned. He should be glad to see his amendment seconded but as in looking around him he saw no European gentlemen but the two or three whose opinions had been avowed, and it might therefore find no seconder, he would remark that an amendment did not necessarily require to be seconded and could be put to the meeting and recorded without it."

Mr. Hume spoke as follows:—

"Mr. Hume said if there was the slightest chance of his being heard, he would like to say a few words relative to this suggestion made by the Chairman to interpolate a word into the address. If the requisition had been a wholly native one, it would have been right and proper, and it would have been very impertinent for any one to interfere, but it was not so, it had been publicly notified in the newspapers and he knew nothing but what he saw in them. It was true that the Sheriff was not a countryman of the sepoys, but neither was he (Mr. H.) a member of the Native community: he had been for many years resident in Calcutta and he wished to add his voice and name in support of the object of the day's meeting. If the right he claimed under the Sheriff's invitation was disallowed he had no more to say.

Mr. Brett's amendment was then put to the meeting, and negatived; after which the original motion was put and carried."

THE HISTORY OF THE CALCUTTA SCHOOL SOCIETY.

We take the following from this *Hindu Patriot* of April 23, 1877:—The Calcutta School Society, established in 1818, under the auspices of Mr. J. H. Harington of Regulation fame, and the Marchioness of Hastings, Dr. Carey, and Mr. W. B. Bayley, aimed among other things at the spread of female education. In the first report of that Society we read, "*Adult and female education, the extention and improvement of the indigenous system and the education of a greater number of clever boys in English, as well as providing them with the means of acquiring scientific education are all objects of great importance to be vigorously pursued in the metropolis and its vicinity.*" This Society was conducted by a Committee consisting of Sir E. H. East, Mr. J. H. Harington, Mr. W. B. Bayley, Dr. Carey, J. Pearson, Mr. W. H. Macnaghten, Baboos Tarinee Churn

Mitter, Radhakaunt Deb, Ramcomul Sen, and several other gentlemen. Afterwards David Hare gave his warm support to it. At the second annual meeting of this Society held on the 2nd May 1821 Sir Hyde East in reference to female education said that he had “ the gratification to know that some natives were to be found of the highest respectability, who were giving their attention to the subject ; and in some instances privately endeavouring in their circles to give effect to these designs for the instruction of their females.”

PUNDIT ISHUR CHUNDER VIDYASAGUR'S RESIGNATION OF HIS APPOINTMENT AS INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS.

THE *Sanjibani* thus wrote on the subject in his obituary in 1891.

In 1858, he resigned his appointment as Inspector of Schools in Burdwan, Hughly, Midnapore, and Nuddea. It is said that he submitted a report to Mr. Gordon Young, then Director of Public Instruction. Mr. Young requested the Pundit to alter a certain portion of this report, which he refused to do. Mr. Young having insisted upon his doing so, he immediately wrote on a slip of paper his resignation, and placed before the Director whom he asked at the same time “ will this satisfy you ?”

THE REV. K. M. BANERJI AND HIS WIFE.

The following extract from a private letter written by the learned Doctor to Babu Gobind Chunder Bysak, a class-friend of his, and then a Deputy-Magistrate of Chittagong contains the following account of his wife :—

Calcutta 22nd March 1842.

“ I thank you for your gallant compliments to my wife who is no doubt much flattered by your eulogium. She has had many advantages for which much might be expected from her. Introduction to Society and inculcation of the strict principles of the Gospel have evidently been of benefit to her.

&c, &c. &c.
Yours very sincerely,
K. M. BANERJI.

THE REV. DR. DUFF'S LETTER TO THE REV. K. M. BANERJI IN 1876.

He wrote to his second convert, the stout-hearted editor of the *Inquirer* of 1832, whom the University of Calcutta had honoured with the Degree of LL. D., the Revd. Krishna Mohun Banerji :—

22, LAUDER ROAD, EDINBURGH.

The 8th January, 1876.

MY DEAR OLD FRIEND,—Though it is now a long time since I have written to you, or heard from you direct, I often hear of you, and constantly, indeed I may say daily, think of you; as it is my habit to remember, in my humble prayers, among others old Indian friends, and especially those who, like yourself, have been honoured in rendering good service in the cause of our common glorious Lord and Master Jesus Christ, often, often also when alone, and I am often alone as regards human society,—do I recall the singularly stirring days of 'auld sang syne, as we say in Scotland, the days of forty-five or forty-six years ago! To think of them and of the mighty changes since, often affords the greatest solace and encouragement to my own spirits.

But I cannot dwell on these now. About ten days ago I met with a severe accident which confined me to bed for a week, and I am now only slowly recovering from the effects of it. I cannot, however, let this mail leave without writing however, meagrely and briefly, to congratulate you on your well-merited university honour at last! The late Bishop Cotton used to confer with me about it; and we both lamented that the door was not then open. Since returning to this country, I again and again thought of applying to one of our Scottish Universities on the subject; and some obstacle or other always came in the way. I, therefore, now rejoice the more on that account, that it has come to you in a way so natural, and in every respect as honourable. Long may you still survive, my dear friend, to enjoy it! Apart from this object it was my intention to write and thank you, for a copy which has reached me of your latest work, the *Aryan Witness*, marked on the title page 'With the author's compliments.' With all my heart I thank you for this very kind remembrance of me. I have already looked through it; and feel that it is every way worthy of your deservedly high reputation for learned research and scholarship, while you calmly maintain our character as a Christian. Long

may you live to produce such works ! May the Lord bless you more and more !

Yours affectionately,
ALEXANDER DUFF.

These are private letters which we got from a relative of the late Babu Gobind Chunder Bysak.

DR. RAJENDRALALA'S EDUCATION IN THE MEDICAL COLLEGE.

Dr. Shumbhu Chunder Mukherji, the late lamented Editor of *Ries* and *Raynet* in his able obituary of his learned friend published in his paper of August 1, 1891, thus described it :—" Reestablished in health, he, in November 1839, at the age of sixteen, went to the Medical College and got himself enrolled as a stipendiary student. He made fair progress in his studies. The Principal, Dr. O'Shaughnessy, was an enthusiastic investigator, and Rajendralala, at his request, gave him, after due enquiry, some information about the medicines used by Hindu women for certain purposes. He had established such a reputation that, in 1841, Babu Dwarkanath Tagore was willing to add him to the four students of the same College he had selected for taking them with him for completing their education in England. The difficulty was whether his father would permit him to take that final step of breaking with Hindu society, namely, crossing the sea. Meanwhile, there was a great row in the College and there were serious charges of misconduct against the students. There was no charge against him in particular, but he had taken oath not to divulge what he knew, and at the inquiry he declined to accuse his fellows. So, notwithstanding the good graces of the Principal, Rajendralala, with many others, were rusticated. The door of Æsculapius closed against him, he turned towards the porch of Temis."

A SHORT SKETCH OF THE LIFE OF BABU GOPI MOHUN MOZUMDAR, LATE ZEMIN- DAR OF ISLAMPORE, MURSHEDABAD.

THE distinguished subject of this our short sketch came from a very respectable family in the "dark" Mofussil where it, along with others no less distinguished for their piety, charity, and liberality, lived for ages together, as so many patterns of pure Hindu social life. For want of authentic materials, the history of such families remains yet unrecorded. Happily for us, we got the following sketch of this great mofussil Zemindar from a distinguished scion of the family and gladly publish it here. The founder of the family was Janardan who is said to have first settled at Islampore. A genealogical table of the family is affixed below :—

Janardan.

|
Kristo Chunder.

|
Sunkar.

|
Siva Das.

|
Tripurah.

|
Paramanunda.

|
Ajodhya Roy.

|
Jugutbulhab.

|
Kristo Gobind.

|
Guru Churn.

|
Gopi Mohun.

An inscription on a temple erected in Saka 1586, in one of its oldest and biggest estates, and dedicated to Siva by

Sankar, the third in descent, points to the remote age from whence it has been in peaceful enjoyment of its estates.

Babu Gopi Mohun Majumdar, the most illustrious member of the family, a man of uncommon intelligence, common sense, and unostentatious charity, was born in the year 1229 B.S., corresponding to Saka 1744, and lost his father when he was of nine years of age. The estate to which he succeeded was an incumbered one, and was at first taken charge of by the Court of Wards, but the management was subsequently taken off from it and placed in the hands of one of his relations, under the general supervision of the Collector. But the affairs took such a bad turn, that though scarcely in his teens he had to take upon himself the sole management of it. Possessed of rare common sense, he soon proved himself equal to the task. By dint of indefatigable energy and wise management, he brought the estate in a solvent state.

He was a man who never did things by halves. It was a favourite motto with him, to quote his own words, "If something is to be done, let it be done at once." Education having been neglected in his childhood, he, in his maturer years, diligently studied Sanskrit, Persian, and English, and acquired a fair knowledge of these languages. An anecdote in connection with his Sanskrit education may be related here. Being once in a *Sabha*, or assembly of Pundits on the occasion of a *sraddha* ceremony, who were carrying on Sashtric discussions in which he could take no part owing to his ignorance of the learned language in which it was being conducted, he was deeply mortified and took to the study of Sanskrit.

As an illustration of his extraordinary power of retention of memory, it may be mentioned that even in his seventh year he could recite from memory the whole of "Rasha Panchadhya" which he only heard his father, a staunch Baisnava, recite daily.

With respect to his religious views, he was a little in advance of his age. Though a pious and devout Hindu, he had not any dogged orthodoxy in him. He was a true believer in the justice of divine dispensation, and had a very strong confidence in the integrity and honesty of the means he employed in his dealings with the world. An anecdote to illustrate this will not be unacceptable. During the great flood of 1286 B.S., when the river Padma was at its highest, a country-boat of his with its cargo in the shape of a few thousands of silver in bags and several bagfuls of conch-shells sank down in it. No one believed in the accident and suspected treachery on the part of the crew. The cargo was given up for lost, but he alone was quite unshaken in the belief that a thing honestly earned could not be so easily lost. At last when the rainy season was over, and the flood subsided, by means of a few conch-shells visible on the bed of the river the place where the boat foundered was traced out, and the money-bags were found safe and sound underneath.

With wonderful facility he could adapt himself to all sorts of works. Though quite unfamiliar with the routine works of a Government Office, when the system of opening rural sub-registrars' offices was first tried upon an experimental basis, he at the request of the Government, undertook the management of one in his own village, and discharged its duties in a manner creditable to him, and was very highly spoken of.

As a Zemindar, his conduct towards his ryots was quite paternal. In good or evil days they ever found in him a true friend and a ready supporter. Fully alive to the educational requirements of his people and of the general public, he founded the Islāmpore H. C. E. school when no institution of the kind was in existence in this part of the District. He was a great patron of Sanskrit learning and used to encourage the Brahmin Pandits of the neighbourhood by every means in his power. The Government recognised his valuable services

to some extent by exempting him from the operations of the Arms Act.

RAI HARI KRISHNA MAZUMDAR BAHADUR.

Of his son Rai Hari Krishna Mazumdar Bahadur, a worthy son of a worthy father, the *Indian Mirror* of 8th January, 1895, writes :—

“We are indeed very glad to notice that Government has at last recognised the long and valuable services of Babu Hari Krishna Mozumdar, Zemindar of Islampore, in the District of Murshidabad. The new year's honours' list contains his name, and a Rai Bahadurship has been very fittingly bestowed on him. Such titles, empty as they are, seem to have some value in the eyes of the general public, when conferred on persons who are really deserving of them. It is the fashion with our Government to be very liberal in bestowing titles on such of its proteges as are not ashamed of losing all self-respect by pursuing a policy of cringing submissiveness; and it is not often that we find people of such independent spirit as Babu Hari Krishna Mozumdar honoured by Government with titles. It must be owned that officials secretly hate those persons, who to serve their own purposes, are not ashamed to rank themselves with their masters' dogs and horses. Be it said to the credit of Babu Hari Krishna that he has won the respect of the officials by his fearless independence, strict adherence to duty and his immense personal sacrifices. He has been acting as an Honorary Magistrate for the last fifteen years, and has been among the first to sit singly with first class powers. As Chairman of the Sadar Local Board, and member of the District Board of Murshidabad, he has been doing valuable service to his District. Himself a man of much enlightenment, he has been maintaining, at his own cost, a Higher English School, which has been the instrument of spreading high education in a rather backward part of a backward District. His private charities are of an unostentatious character, his left hand not knowing what his right hand doeth. We sincerely congratulate the gentleman on his well-earned honours, and wish that he may enjoy them long. May this be an additional inducement to him to make his life more useful and to attain higher honours.”

A copy of a D. O. letter addressed to Mr. Wavel, the then Collector of Murshidabad by Babu Gopi Mohun Mozumdar accepting the management of a rural Sub-Registrar's Office at Islampore.

ISLAMPORE.

The 5th April, 1873.

MY DEAR MR. WAVEL,

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter asking me to act as rural Sub-Registrar of an office to be opened at Goas upon an experimental basis. The plan is no doubt a wise one, and I hope it will work well to the immense benefit of the people at large. As matters at present stand people who live far apart from the head-quarters do often leave their bonds and deeds unregistered, much against their own will, simply owing to the troubles and expenses they have to meet in travelling a far way to the head-quarters, where and where only is there an office for registration. The consequence is that the transactions to which the deeds bear do often times result in heavy law suits much to the loss of the parties concerned. In these circumstances the prospect of good to the people on the one hand and that of its being a source of some income to Government on the other, should the system of Registration be one of wide circulation, is a sufficient inducement for me to hail it as a most well-planned measure, and to serve in the capacity of a rural Sub-Registrar, if the Government desires me so to do. I beg to mention here that I have to attend to multifarious affairs of my own at home and it may, I am afraid, be much to my inconvenience to attend office at Goas. I hope there may possibly be no objection, if the office be located at my own private residence here. With most kind regards,

I remain, yours sincerely,
(Sd.) GOPI MOHUN MOZUMDAR.

W. Wavel Esq., C. S.

Babu Gopi Mohun wrote a book in Sanskrit called *Kurmanasha* and published it from the Barat Press, Calcutta, 1289, B. S., dwelling on the construction of the various Sanskrit verses with original rhetorical illustrations of great beauty. This learned book having been composed in his last hours of illness, was left incomplete. Babu Hari Krishna also wrote a work called "The History of Ancient India," the first volume of which was dedicated to the late lamented Dr. Rajendralala Mitra. The learned Doctor thus noticed the book.

"The subject of your book is one of extreme difficulty, but very high credit is due to you for the tact, talent, and wisdom with which you have treated your side of the question, and I have no hesitation in saying that your book is a valuable accession to the Bengali literature."

REPLY OF SIR CHARLES WOOD TO THE HINDOO MEMORIAL FOR THE RECALL OF SIR MORDAUNT WELLS.

No. 162.

INDIA OFFICE, LONDON.

24th December 1861.

* * * * *

(2.) I regret that any language used on the Bench of Justice should be supposed by any persons to convey general imputations on the moral character of the whole native inhabitants of Bengal. But I cannot think that such imputations could be intended, and I am convinced that the learned judge must have meant, in reality, only to declare in strong terms his condemnation of certain criminal practices which had been brought to his knowledge, and which appear to have been of frequent occurrence as well as serious character.

(3.) I will conclude by expressing a hope that the feelings of which this memorial contains the evidence, may of themselves subside with time and reflexion, that those who hold judicial office may be sensible of how great importance it is that their denunciations of crime may not be interpreted into hasty imputations against a whole people or community, and that those classes which the Memorialists represent, while honourably anxious to justify themselves against any such supposed imputations, may feel how deep an interest they have in the earnest and fearless administration of justice by those to whom it is entrusted.

I have &c.

(Sd.) C. Wood,

(True copy.)

S. M. MONTEATH.

Under-Secretary to the Government of India.

To—Babu Jotendra Mohun Tagore, Honorary Secretary to the British Indian Association.

(Hurk, 10 February, 1862.)

THE ARISTOCRATIC CHARACTER OF THE ASIATIC SOCIETY OF BENGAL.

Dr. Carey used to say that Bentley, the great Indian astronomer, was always made to feel that he was *tolerated* for his science, though a small merchant in Calcutta; and poor Gibbon, though a very scientific man yet, as being in the

Uncovenanted Service, was admitted to sit at the bottom of the table, and, notwithstanding his ruffles and his well-powdered wig, rarely obtained more than a patronizing bow from the big wigs, who composed the meeting (*F. I.*, 27th July, 1848.)

THE ANTIQUITIES OF ORISSA BY DR. RAJENDRALALA MITRA AND ITS HISTORY.

The history of the work is thus given in the preface:—

“In 1868, the Government of India, at the suggestion of the Royal Society of Arts, London, assigned a large sum of money for the purpose of obtaining casts of some of more important sculptures of ancient India. To carry out this object, a part of the sum was made over to the Government of Bengal, leaving it to make its own selection of the subjects, which it might think were likely to be the most interesting and best calculated to fulfil the object of the Government. In connexion with this grant, I suggested, in reply to an enquiry of Sir William Grey, then Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, that the party of modellers and moulders which the Government was then about to send to Orissa should proceed to Bhuvaneshvara, where it would find the eldest and most interesting specimens of Hindu architectural ornament, and added that it would be well to depute along with it a person familiar with Indian antiquarian remains, so that some historical and descriptive accounts might be secured of the several monuments from which casts would be taken. My suggestions were approved by the Bengal Government, and I was directed to accompany, as archæologist, the party of moulders, draftsmen and photographers which was sent down to Bhuvaneshvara in the winter of 1868-69. (*H. P.*, March 1878.)

MR. A. M. BROADLAY, C. S.

It is stated that Mr. A. M. Broadley, Arabi's English Counsel, is an ex-member of the Bengal Civil Service. The reader might recollect that he was Assistant Magistrate at Alipore, and he suddenly disappeared at the time of Sir George Campbell. He was the *Times'* correspondent at Tunis during the French Campaign. (*H. P.*, Nov. 20, 1882.)

THE HISTORY OF THE COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION IN BENGAL.

The Committee of Public Instruction was formed in 1823. The only Colleges with which the Committee had to do were the Calcutta Madrassa founded in 1781 by Warren Hastings, and the Benares Sanskrit College founded in 1791 by Mr. Jonathan Duncan. The Committee established the Sanskrit College of Calcutta, the Delhi College, the Allahabad school, and assisted a few private schools up to 1834.

In this year, Mr. Macaulay came to India, and the Committee were divided as between "Orientalists" and "Anglicists."

THE "ORIENTALIST" PARTY,

Consisted of

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| (1) The Hon'ble H. Shakespeare | (4) Mr. W. H. Macnaughten. |
| (2) Mr. H. Thoby Prinsep | (5) Mr. T. C. C. Sutherland the Secretary. |
| (3) Mr. James Prinsep | |

THE "ANGLICISTS."

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| (1) Mr. W. W. Bird | (4) Mr. Trevelyan |
| (2) Mr. Bushby | (5) Mr. J. R. Colvin. |
| (3) Mr. Saunders. | |

The dissension between these two parties was brought to a practical point by an order to prepare a scheme of studies for the college at Agra. In February 1835, Mr. Macaulay, as President of the Committee wrote his famous minute which smote the Orientalist hip and thigh, and so convinced Lord William Bentinck that he decided in favour of the study of English. From that hour, 7th March 1835, dates the real birth of English education in India. (*F. I.* 15th May, 1862.)

HOW NATTORE WAS ABANDONED.

A Civilian Magistrate of Nattore lived in a house belonging to a native. A dispute existed between the Kunkar of Baga and one Dost Mahammed in reference to the soil on which the house was built, and to defray part of the law expenditure, the owner of the house raised the rent. "Lower the rent" said the Civilian, or "else I will do" for you". The owner declined, and a report was sent complaining of the unhealthiness of the station." And it was abolished. (*F. I.*, September 11th, 1862.)

It was in this strange way the great old city of Nattore, the residence of Rani Bhabani was abandoned as the headquarters of the Rajshaye District, and the city of Rampore Boalia on the Ganges, some twenty miles from it was chosen in its stead!!!

THE FIRST COMPETITION-WALLAS AMONG THE INDIAN CIVILIANS.

Sir Thomas Pycroft who retired in 1868 from the Council of the Governor at Madras, and Mr. Buckland of the Bengal Civil Service, son of the Rev. Mr. Buckland were the first competition-wallas in India.—(*Englishman*, May 13th, 1869.)

MR. GEORGE CHINNERY.

Mr. George Chinnery, the well-known painter, as we learn from a series of articles that appeared in the *Pioneer* of 1878, came to Calcutta "at the end of 1802 or at the beginning of 1803. There he resided for many years, and was a favourite portrait painter amongst all classes. In Government House, Calcutta, there is a three-quarter length of Sir Eyre Coote by this artist, and a full length of the Newab Sadut Ali Khan, half-brother of Asaf-Uddowla, and the best of the Oudh rulers. In the High Court of Calcutta, there is a full length of Sir Henry Russel, and another Sir Francis Macnaughten, both by Chinnery."

THE EARLY HISTORY OF COOCH BEHAR.

In 1771, the Bhootias invaded these territories. A short time after this, the Cooch Behar Dewan, Dorpo Deb entered into alliance with the Bhootias which was likely to have been attended with ruinous consequences. The Raja in this crisis applied to the English Government for help, and agreed to pay one half of his revenue to the British Government. Captain Jones was therefore deputed in 1772 with a battalion of Sepoys. The British Sepoys followed the Cooch Behar Dewan up to Bhootan, captured the fortress of Dalim Cotta, and a treaty of peace ensued. A Mr. Ahmuty was deputed to Cooch Behar to ascertain the Rajah's revenue which amounted to one lakh and sixty thousand Narianee rupees. The British share was fixed at half of this viz., at Rs. 80,000. (*F. I.*, December, 1847.)

THE DANISH SETTLEMENT OF SREERAMPORE.

On Saturday the 11th October 1845, Mr. J. J. Harvey and H. V. Bayley took possession of this Settlement as Commissioners on half of the British Government from the Danes. A little before the year 1756, the Settlement was created, and a factory was established through the influence of Mons. Law, a French officer in the Court of Ali-Verdy Khan who granted permission in this matter. (*F. I.* of October 16, 1845.)

THE ORIGIN OF THE CALCUTTA UNIVERSITY.

The Council of Education recommended the establishment of an University in 1847, but the Court of Directors negatived the proposal, as stated in the *Friend of India* of 23rd December, 1847. We learn from the same source that the famous Despatch of 1857, creating the said University was partly

drafted, or written at the suggestion of Dr. Duff and Mr. Marshman.

THOMAS KERRIDGE, THE MISSIONARY ENVOY.

Mr. Stainbury's Calendar of State Papers relating to China and Japan from 1513 to 1616 relates the following anent this Missionary envoy.

One of the most curious incidents of the early ventures is the Mission of one Thomas Kerridge to Agra to deliver a letter of James I to the Great Mogul. Kerridge came empty-handed, for the Stuart King was not demonstrative in the way of presents and accordingly, to his own account, he was slighted in consequence. But one of his men played the cornet, and the Mogul was "exceedingly delighted," and he taught one of the king's Chief Musicians to play upon it, to whom the king said, "if thou canst learn this, I will make thee a great man." The Mogul was taken with Sir Thomas Smythe's picture, and confessed that none of his own painters could equal it, whereupon the Company made a politic endeavour to send out the Mogul a portrait of himself. Unfortunately it failed in an essential particular, for it was nothing like him and served for no use at all. Some English dogs were better approved; also an English coach and horses with a coachman, who had been in the service of Bishop of Lichfield, to drive it. Sir Thomas Roe soon after comes upon the scene as ambassador of the Company to Agra, and his remonstrance with the Governor of Surat who had done various "wrongs" to the Englishmen is one of the most characteristic letters in the volume. "I come hither" he says "not to beg nor do not suffer injury. I serve a king that is able to revenge whatever is dared to be done against his subjects." After describing the injuries already received, Roe declares that he will seek the Governor's friendship no further, but go with speed to the Great Mogul and desire justice. "I am better resolved to die upon an enemy than to flatter him, and for such I give you notice to take me until your master hath done me justice. (F. I., April, 2nd 1663.)

THE ORIGIN OF CASES OF CONTEMPT OF COURT.

THE ACT OF 1841.

It was published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of August 4, 1841, empowering Muffusil Courts to inflict a fine not exceeding Rs. 200, or imprisonment for one month on persons showing disrespect towards them.—(*Courier*, Aug. 4, 1841.)

FRICTION BETWEEN THE HIGH COURT JUDGES AND THE BENGAL GOVERNMENT.

The *Friend of India* of June 11, 1863 wrote the following on this subject :—

“ On the 29th July last, the Government of Bombay asked the Government of Bengal as to the mode in which public prosecutors in the Bengal High Court make themselves acquainted with the cases which they have to conduct. On the 12th August, the Bengal Under-Secretary “ docketed ” the letter thus.—“ Forwarded to the High Court of Judicature for early report and return, by order of the Lieutenant-Governor.” !!! Here the junior official in the Secretariat, evidently without the Lieutenant-Governor’s knowledge, and as a matter of routine, addresses the Chief Justice and Her Majesty’s Judges in a manner which, to those who are aware of English analogies, will seem outrageous. When the Supreme Court was in existence it was, we believe, the custom for the Governor-General in Council, when he asked to communicate with its Judges, to sign the letter with his own hand, and then the language was couched in the form of a request. When the Supreme Court elevated to its own level, the Sudder Court, and so transformed members of the Civil Service into Crown Judges, the Governor-General in Council, after consulting the Chief Justice, arranged that all communications between the Government of India and the High Court, shall be made, ordinarily, by letter from one of its Secretaries to the Registrar, or to the clerk of the Chief Justice, and *vice versa*. Sir Barnes Peacock protested against this insulting letter. Another instance of similar disrespect occurred on the 4th March 1863.

Mr. Lingham, sitting as a Small Cause Court Judge from whose decisions there was no appeal, was petitioned against by some natives of Jessore, who termed a decision unfavourable to themselves, “ hard ” “ unjust ” and “ arbitrary.” The Bengal Government applied to the High Court to report on this complaint, and in reply had to be taught the very elementary lesson that the Legislature, when it allowed of appeal from such decisions, could not have meant the High Court to review them, because the losing side is dissatisfied. Then again when the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council expressed a doubt as to the justice of sentencing Babu Joy Kishen Mukherji to imprisonment and fine on a charge of forgery, on the ground that there were “ irregularities ” in the proceedings of the Sudder Court, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal Sir Cecil Beadon referred the case to the High Court for their opinion on the 7th November 1862. Sir Cecil Beadon wrote a minute condemning the Judges. He, however, apologized to them.”

THE WARRANT OF PRECEDENCE,

Was published in 1841. By the Warrant of 1814, the Chief Justices of Bengal, Madras and Bombay, were all placed above the Bishop of Calcutta. In the Warrant of 1841, no change was made in regard to this precedence. But it gave precedence to the Commander-in-Chief over the Members of Council, and all the Puisne Judges as set down in the Warrant of 1814. The Advocate-Generals of Bengal, Madras, and Bombay had precedence to Lieutenant-Colonels by virtue of the Warrant of 1814, but it was reversed in 1841.—(*Courier*, Nov. 3, 1841.)

THE NAMES OF THE FIRST COURT OF DIRECTORS OF THE ENGLISH EAST INDIA COMPANY.

The following are the names of the first Court of Directors appointed on the 30th September, 1600.

| | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Alderman Bannying. | Fora Charpy. |
| „ Hallyday. | Mr. Alabaster. |
| „ Goddard. | Roger Howe. |
| „ Smythe. | Rich. Wyche. |
| Rich. Staper. | John Eldred. |
| Wm. Garway. | John Bate. |
| Thom. Cordell. | Wm. Chambers. |
| Mr. Lancaster. | Mr. Harrison. |
| Richard Wiseman. | |

HOSTILE ATTITUDE OF THE COURT OF DIRECTORS TOWARDS ENGLISH EDUCATION IN INDIA.

WE take the following from the *Friend of India* of May 16, 1850:—

"In 1792 when the question of affording general instruction to the natives of India, for the first time, came before the Court of Directors, it was received with marked disfavour. One of its proprietors uttered the following remarkable sentence :—

"That one of the leading and most efficient causes of the separation of America from Great Britain, as the mother country, was the founding of colleges, and establishing seminaries for education in the different Provinces Sound policy dictated that we should in the case of India avoid and steer clear of the rock we had split upon in the case of America."

From that time and onward for more than twenty years the opposition of the Indian Government to the Indian education was incessant and unremitting."

(F. I. April 2, 1863.)

MAHARAJAH GRISH CHANDER ROY BAHADUR OF KRISHNAGHUR.

Maharajah Grish Chunder Roy Bahadur was the great grand-father of the present Maharajah Kshitisha Chunder Roy Bahadur. We read the following in the *Gyananyashun* of September 26th, 1838 :—

"Maharajah Grish Chunder Roy Bahadur, the present holder of the Krishnaghur Raj has requested the Bengal Government to take into its serious deliberation the subject of resuming lands in his zemindaries, in consideration of the immense valuable services which his great grand-father, Maharajah Krishna Chunder Roy Bahadur had done to the British Government. We have since come to know, with no ordinary feeling of joy, that the liberal-minded Deputy-Governor has paid that attention to the subject which it merits."

Maharajah Grish Chunder died without a male issue and adopted Maharajah Srish Chunder Roy Bahadur as his son. It is said that he used to call this adopted son a *purgacha* (an engrafted twig.) One day it is said, the Rajah having found the boy keeping a box in his custody shewed great disgust at the sight and chid him for his petty mindedness. It was beneath the dignity of Rajah's son to keep a box in his own custody. Maharaja Grish

Chunder lost his immense property from the rigidity of the sun-set law. We saw Maharajah Srish Chunder Ray Bahadur in our youthful days. He was a beau-ideal of what an aristocratic gentleman should be. He was a great friend of our late lamented uncle-in-law Babu Kally Churn Lahery, the youngest brother of Babu Ramtonu Lahery of Krishnaghur.

We take the following genealogy of this ancient renowned Raj Family from *Kshitisha Bungshabali Charita* by the late Dewan Kartic Chunder Roy, published in 1875, and reviewed in the *Hindu Patriot* of October 14, 1875 :—

Bhobanunda Mozumdar, the founder of the Raj Family of Nuddea.

|
Gopal.

|
Raghub.

|
Rudra.

|
Ram Kristo.

|
Ram Jibun.

|
Rughuram. (Died in 1728.)

|
Ugni Hotrya Bajpaye Maharajah Dhiraj Krishna
Chunder Roy Bahadur. (Born in 1710, A. D.)

|
Maharajah Shib Chunder Roy Bahadur.

|
„ Ishur Chunder „

|
„ Grish Chunder „

|
„ Srish Chunder „ (Adopted son.)

|
„ Satish Chunder „

|
„ Kshitish Chunder „ (Adopted son.)

THE BAPTIST MISSION PRESS OF CALCUTTA.

It was established by the Rev. W. H. Pearce in 1818. He died in 1840. He came out to India as an assistant to Mr. Ward in 1817, having learnt the art of printing under Mr. Collinwood, Printer to the University of Oxford.—(*F. I. March* 26th 1840.)

THE ORIGIN OF THE DACCA COLLEGE.

The foundation of this College was laid by the Right Rev. Daniel, Lord Bishop of Calcutta on the 20th November 1841. The Dacca English Seminary established on the 15th July 1835, was since then called the Dacca College.—(*Courier*, November 27th, 1841.)

A PUBLIC MEETING FOR THE PREVENTION OF THE EXPORTATION OF COOLIES.

The Sheriff of Calcutta, Mr. James Young was in the Chair. The Lord Bishop, Achdeacon Dealtry moved the 1st resolution protesting against the emigration of coolies to the British Colonies. The Rev. Mr. Charles seconded it. Dr. Stewart, Mr. Osborne, and Captain A. G. Mackenzie, and the Rev. Mr. Boaz addressed the meeting. Mr. Dickens in moving the resolution to the effect, that the Hill coolies and other natives who emigrate do not understand the terms of their contract; that Government be memorialized to institute a second enquiry into the matter, and that pending such enquiry the exportation be stopped. He in an elaborate speech described the history of Act V of 1837 by virtue of which these emigrations are allowed. Mr. Brocken seconded it. Mr. Longueville

Clarke also addressed the meeting in support of this resolution. Major Archer stood on a chair and related his experience of the defects of the system. Babu Dwarka Nath Tagore moved the third resolution that a petition be presented to the Governor-General.—(*Hurk* July 12th, 1838.)

MR. WILLIAM AUSTIN MONTRIOU, BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

HE was called to the Bar in 1835 and joined the Calcutta Bar from Bombay in 1842. He was in 1843 appointed a Police Magistrate of Calcutta. Mr. Montriou was one of the ablest Barristers that came to this country, distinguished alike for his vast legal learning, as well for his sympathy with the natives of this country. He defended the Hon'ble (then Babu) Surendra Nath Banerji in the famous "fudging the naksha case" in 1873. (vide "The Bengal Celebrities," P. 120.) Mr. W. C. Bonnerji and Babu Gopal Lall Mitter having refused to take up his case, Mr. Montriou was engaged on his behalf at the recommendation of the Hon'ble Justice Dwarka Nath Mitter and Babu Romanath Law. Mr. Montriou generally drafted the petitions of the British Indian Association in its early days.

MR. JOHN FARLEY LEITH, BARRISTER- AT-LAW.

HE came out to this country in 1832 and retired from the Calcutta Bar in 1856. The Natives of Calcutta presented him an address at the time of his retirement. He was entrusted with the task of representing the views of the natives against the Lex Loci Act.

DR. COTTON, BISHOP OF CALCUTTA.

He was installed in the Cathedral on the 17th November, 1858. He landed in Calcutta without a salute, a ceremony which was forbidden by orders from England. (F. I. Nov. 18, 1838.)

SALE OF HAILEYBURY AND ADDISCOMBE COLLEGES.

WE take the following from *Thacker's Overland News* of September 3, 1861 :—

“ On Friday last, these Colleges were sold by auction at the Mart, by Mr. Norton (of the firm of Norton, Hoggart, and Trist.) The Haileybury College was founded in 1806, and opened for the reception of students in 1809. The East India Company expended £100,000 upon it before it was opened, and laid out about as much upon it while it was in their possession. The College was situated about two miles from Hartford, of quadrangular form surrounded by about fifty-five acres of land, ornamentally laid out in paddocks cricket ground, &c., with six convenient residences for principals, accommodation for one hundred pupils, and consecrated chapel. The Haileybury College was at length knocked down for £15,200, the purchasers being the National Freehold Land Society, of which Mr. Milner Gibson M. P., and Mr. Gilpin M. P., two members of Her Majesty's Government are directors. Addiscombe which was described as having been the residence of Earl of Liverpool, and as having been during the last years, the Military College of the East India Company, was knocked down to the National Freehold Land Society for £33,600.

BARRISTERS AND JUDGES OF THE SUPREME COURT IN 1822.

In the years 1821-22-23 a series of sketches of Calcutta and Anglo-Indian Society appeared in *Blackwood's Magazine* then edited by Christopher North. They were written by one Colni Bannatyne, a Purser of the Royal Navy. In 1822, the great lights of the bar of the Supreme Court of Calcutta were Messrs. Spankie, Fergusson of Craigdarroch, and Hogg. The Judges of the Court were Sir Hyde East, Sir Francis Macnaughten, and Sir A. Buller.

MR. ROBERT CUTLAR FERGUSSON.

IN the pleasant gossip of a writer on the editors and news paper writers of the last generation in *Fraser*, we have an account of the Craigdarroch there mentioned according to the practice which still prevails in rural Scotland of calling a landholder, like a Peer, by the name of his estate. Robert Cutlar Fergusson was a friend of Sir J. Mackintosh, and like him a liberal in politics. He was imprisoned in the Tower with Lord Thanet, in 1798 when party spirit ran high even in the Courts of Justice, for too enthusiastically expressing in Court his delight at the acquittal of O'Connor in a political trial. Soon after he went out to Bengal, but smuggled as a free mariner, for in 1803 the Court of Directors would not allow even the head of the House of Craigdarroch leave to visit India. In 1823 he became Advocate-General. In this position, he remained about two years; and returned to his native land, after an absence of more than twenty years through Persia, Russia, Poland, Germany, and France in 1825 nearly two thousand pounds richer, entered Parliament, and became himself a Director and Privy Councillor.

CONSTITUTION OF THE BOARD OF CONTROL.

The British India Society published in 1841 a book called *The East India Year Book* for 1841, from which, we take the following :—

From the year 1784 until 1793, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department was always the President of the India Board, without salary : on this footing Lord Viscount Sidmouth, Lord Grenville, and Lord Melville were successively appointed. In 1793, Parliament changed the system, and the post of the President was made a separate appointment, with a salary : but the office has not been considered as among the first appointments in the King's Cabinet, and therefore, though often filled by men of eminence, it has been subject to frequent changes, so that few Presidents have held their office long enough to attain the knowledge necessary for the fulfilment of its important functions.

From 1784 until 1832, the India Board had but one Secretary. Since then it has had two Secretaries. The Secretary, in like manner with the Commissioners, is a political partisan of the Minister of the day, who can get himself a seat in the House of Commons. Being nominated on the same principle as the Commissioners, he is equally ignorant of the affairs of India, and he was, therefore to rely on the advice of irresponsible persons." (*Hurkura* 30th April, 1841.)

The power of the Board, which was originally established by Mr. Pitt in 1774, was brought to its full maturity by the Charter Act of 1833.

LORD CANNING AND MR. COURTENAY, SECRETARY TO THE BOARD OF CONTROL.

THE *Englishman* in its issue of the 17th Nov., 1847 in an article on "Lord Dalhousie," related the following anecdote of the President of the Board of Control from the *London Times* : —

"The little attention given to Indian affairs by the Board of Control has become so notorious as to be almost proverbial. We have heard, on excellent authority, an anecdote of Canning when its President, which shows what attention he paid to Indian affairs. He had not been at the office for weeks, when Mr. Courtenay, the Secretary, meeting him in the street insisted upon his going with him to sign certain papers delayed by his neglect. Is it absolutely necessary ? he asked. Yes, said Courtenay, absolutely necessary. Canning walked reluctantly towards Cannon Row, till getting sight of Astley's theatre he stopped, and pointing to it, said—There, Courtney, is Astley's, "I will give you ticket for to-night if you will let me off.—What must have been this illustrious statesman's estimate of the importance of the affairs which he could treat with so much levity."

MR. THOMAS BUCKLAND.

Brother of Mr. C. T. Buckland of the Bengal Civil Service was convicted of forging a cheque for Rs. 5,000 in his brother's name by Sir Mordaunt Wells, and sentenced to penal servitude for 8 years.

BABU MUTTY LAL SEAL'S CHARITY.

The *Purna Chandroday* thus wrote in 1843 :—

We have on various former occasions, made known acts of benevolence practised by our wealthy countryman, Babu Mutty Lal Seal. We have now to announce an additional instance. A Brahmin named Juggomohan Thakoor was known to the Babu. On an occasion of pecuniary difficulty he obtained from the Babu a loan of 3 or 4 thousand rupees on the mortgage of a house belonging to him. This debt, however, he was unable to liquidate; and some time ago he fell dangerously ill, and being on the point of death, his friends were conveying him to the river's brink. The Brahmin was in the possession of his mental faculties, and his last journey to the ghaut was by the way of the Babu's house. While passing it he desired that his *khat* to be put down and wished to have an interview with the Babu, ere bidding farewell for ever to this world. The intelligence reaching the Babu he was much affected by it, and immediately proceeded to meet the dying Brahmin who had been known to him for a long time. The Brahmin imparted his blessing to the Babu, but remarked, that he could not take his final departure in peace as he was bound to the Babu under unfulfilled engagement. The Babu being convinced of the Brahmin's approaching dissolution immediately brought out and returned to him all the papers connected with the loan and mortgage; released the Brahmin from all liability, and bestowed some money in the bargain on the Brahmin's friends for the expenses of his funeral rites.

HIS DEATH.

He died in 1854. The *Friend of India* noticed his death in a long obituary in its issue of May 25th, 1854. In 1834 he was a common writer in the house of Ashburner & Co. He was once accused of perjury and forgery and tried by the Supreme Court and acquitted. Babu Rushomoy Dutt died also in the same year.

SYED MOBARAK ALLY, NAWAB NAZIM
OF BENGAL.

He was the fourth lineal descendant of Jaffer Ally Khan, who revolted to Lord Clive and was left by the death of his father Wallah Jah in 1824 to the guardianship of the Company

at the age of thirteen. Mobarak Ally, or Jonab Ally as he was popularly called, was educated by a Mufti, and Rajah Gungdhur, an old trusted servant of his father's, was appointed Dewan of the Nizamut. In the meantime, Mr. Loch the Company's representative at the Nizamut was succeeded by Mr. Melville. A Naib Dewan was now added to the Nizamut establishment in the person of Roy Parishnath, a respectable follower of the Agent. The Naib Dewan was ordered to examine the old accounts, and it was found that the Dewan (Rajah Gungadhur) had embezzled Rs. 80,000. The Agent pleaded implicit confidence on the Naib Dewan who took away all power from the Dewan. In this way great enmity ensued between these two officers. They formed two separate parties who were at loggerheads with each other. The Dewan and the Nawab Nazim resented the interference of the Agent and his favourite Naib Dewan in the Nizamut affairs. There was a regular hostility between the Agent and the young Nazim, who received at this time Rs 1500 a month, as his pocket money which was quite insufficient to meet his wants. The Dewan helped him with money at this crisis. Mr. Melville once recommended to Government to keep the young Nawab under a guard of English soldiers. In 1827 the Hon'ble Mr. Melville resigned his charge, having been greatly outraged by the conduct of the young Nazim and his Dewan. Mr. Dale succeeded Mr. Melville as Agent and tried in vain to dissuade the young Nawab from idle habits. In 1827 the Nawab attained his majority, and ascended the musnud with a pension of six and half a lakh of rupees per year. He once paid Rs. 12,000 to the widow of Mr. Dale, the Agent, to relieve her distress. He died in October 1838. (*Hurk.* Nov. 2. 1838.)

REMINISCENCES AND ANECDOTES OF DEPUTY-GOVERNORS AND LIEUTENANT-GOVERNORS OF BENGAL.

CHAPTER II.

MR. CARTIER, DEPUTY-GOVERNOR IN 1770.

In the middle of the last century, the practise of smoking *hukah*, in imitation of luxuriant orientals, prevailed among the high officials, even at Belvedere, as it would appear from the following extract.

"Captain Stavorinus says that the Director of the Dutch settlement at Chinsurah came on a visit to the Governor at Calcutta. He was seated at the upper end of the dinner table, on the right hand of the Governor, having on the other side, the General of the English land forces. Full half of the guests were officers of the troops, for whom the Governor keeps every day open house. When the cloth was taken away, a *hukah*, which is a glass filled with water was set before every one of the company. At six in the evening Mr. Cartier came to fetch the Director and his company, to take a ride to his country seat, Belvedere."—(*F. I.* Aug. 24, 1843.)

MR ROSS, DEPUTY-GOVERNOR OF BENGAL.

The following facts of his official life, we glean from the *Hurkura* of Oct. 15, 1838 :

The high offices of Deputy-Governor and President of the Council, are this day transferred from Mr. Ross to Colonel Morison. Mr. Ross is one of the oldest Civil Servants of the Company, the date of his first appointment being the year 1796. During the last fifteen years of his career he has filled the highest posts, having been successively Resident at Delhi, Judge of the Sudder Dewany and Nazamut Adalat at Calcutta, Member of Council, Acting.

Governor of Agra, and Deputy-Governor of Bengal and President of the Supreme Council. He is a staunch disciple of Bentham, and his ultra-liberal principles have sometimes produced results little palatable in the latitude of Leadenhall Street. Nevertheless, several of the most important alterations and improvements which have been recently introduced into the different departments of Indian administration, especially the judicial system, have been adopted in accordance with his suggestions. During the period when he filled the office of Judge of the Sudder, he penned several very valuable minutes on the subject of the Judicial administration of the country. His Governorships have not been marked by many prominent public acts, except the abolition of the transit duties, a measure for which he was severely blamed by the Hon'ble Court of Directors at the time, but the policy of which is now fully admitted; and the recent important enactment, introducing the vernacular languages instead of Persian, into all the Provincial Courts, concerning the policy and expediency of which there can scarcely be two opinions. Among the natives, Mr. Ross, has universally been a favourite. He was one of the earliest advocates for the extension of the system of employing natives in revenue, judicial, and other offices, holding them, when qualified, equally eligible with Europeans even for important and responsible uncovenanted situations under Government."

He was amiable and kind-hearted, and somewhat of a sickly disposition. He retired in 1838.

WILLIAM WILBERFORCE BIRD, ESQ.

On the 1st of September, 1844, the native gentry of Calcutta held a public meeting, at the Hindoo College Hall to vote an address to the retiring Deputy-Governor. Raja Kali Krishen took the chair on the occasion. Babu Dwarka Nath Tagore in moving the first Resolution said, that the native community was indebted to him for the abolition of the Pilgrim Tax, and Slavery, and of the absurd and abominable forms in which oaths had, for so many years, been administered in the Courts of Justice. He amended also the Sale Regulation Law. Babu Ram Gopal Ghose seconded the Resolution.—(*Hurk*, Sept. 3, 1844.)

SIR HERBERT MADDOCK.

He arrived in India in 1814 and retired in 1849. On the departure of Lord Hardinge for the N. W. Provinces in Oct., 1845, he succeeded to the office of Deputy-Governor of Bengal and President of the Council of India, and continued to fill the former office till the arrival of Lord Dalhousie in January, 1848.—(*F. I.* March 15th, 1849.)

SIR JOHN HUNTER LITTLER, G. C. B.

Was appointed Deputy-Governor of Bengal on the 9th March, 1849.—(*F. I.* March 15, 1849.)

SIR FREDERICK HALLIDAY.

He was appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal in 1854, said the *Friend of India* in its issue of Aug. 3, 1854, not by the Court of Directors, but by Lord Dalhousie. The *Hurkura* maintained that by the Charter Act of 1853, the Governor-General should not be called Governor of Bengal, and that an order was passed limiting the tenure of office of the Lieutenant-Governor to five years only.

It was generally believed that, Sir Frederick Halliday got the appointment, for his evidence before the Parliamentary Committee in 1852, in which he vehemently opposed the appointment of natives to posts of high emolument and responsibility.

SIR FREDERICK HALLIDAY, THE "BIG-FIDDLE."

We take the following from the *Indian Observer* of June, 8, 1872, containing a review of *Court Life in India*: Imperial and Provincial,—1842-72, 2 vols., Mithe, Puraflaj and Co., London.

"These were the days when Frederick Halliday was King of Bengal, and ruled and kept a Court that reminded people of what they had read of that good old King Rene of Provence. Sir

Frederick was a devoted lover of music, and himself an accomplished instrumentalist. "Big-fiddle" was the polite term by which the *Englishman* used to designate him, and in that instrument he assuredly had few amateur equals. The concert nights at Belvidere was a great treat. Sir Frederick had got together a powerful Orchestra, composed of Secretaries, Under-Secretaries, members of the board, clerks, brokers, organists, &c., who rendered the music of the masters in a style that would not have disgraced the best genius *conservatoire* has ever turned out. Then for a young civilian to be a good musician was for him to stand secure of place and stay in Calcutta and immunity from the jungles; and the civilian Paganinis were not they alone who gained, for not a few of the clerks got good promotion, and more than one out of the brokers and other outsiders good place in the Government Service, with the certainty of rapidly rising to the very top of the uncovenanted tree—one worthy, but officially-useless, old East Indian being gazetted French Interpreter to the Government of Bengal!

SIR FREDERICK HALLIDAY AT KRISHNAGHUR—AN ANECDOTE.

Immediately after his ascension on the Bengal musnud, Sir Frederick visited Krishnaghur, the head-quarter station of the Nuddea District. The Zemindars of this District, *viz.*, the late Mutty Babu *alias* Omesh Chunder Roy of Santipore, the late Babu Bamundass Mukherji of Ulla, the late Babu Sri Gopal Pal Chowdhry of Ranaghat, the late Babu Brindabun Chunder Sircar of Shibaniash, and others headed by the late Maharajah Srish Chunder Roy Bahadur held a grand demonstration in his honour. Those were pre-eminently the days of Zemindars having considerable influence over the society. The old town of Krishnaghur was crowded to suffocation with the numerous followers, servants, lattials, mace-bearers, *sarkiwallas*, *burkundazes*, elephants, horses, *et hoc genus omni*, belonging to these influential Zemindars of good olden by-gone days.

The Zemindars thought of presenting an address and a memorial to the new Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. But an initial difficulty stood in their way. There was then no English-knowing plender in the bar of Krishnaghur, nor any other gentleman outside the pale of the English staff of teachers in the local college, who could draft a decent memorial for them. The senior plender of the local bar was therefore requested by the zemindars to find out a man from the college teachers to do the business of drafting the petition at their dictation. The choice, at last however, fell on Babu Omesh Chunder Dutt, a very clever young teacher of the local college. What we have heard from his own mouth, we describe below. Babu, afterwards Professor, Omesh Chunder came to the

boituckhana house of the zemindars, made a low bow to the Brahmin zemindars present, and being a Boidya by caste, was allowed to sit on a separate carpet, and wrote out the memorial in English at the dictation of Mutty Babu of Santipore. He was not allowed to smoke in the presence of the aristocratic zemindars.

The memorial was written in such a clever way that Sir Frederick Halliday, it is said, enquired of the zemindars as to the writer of it, and was so much pleased with Babu Omesh Chunder Dutt, that he, by way of encouragement, held a long talk with him in the darbar, recommended him to the head of the education department for his promotion. Such was the state of Krishnaghur society in 1854.

SIR FREDERICK HALLIDAY AT A PUBLIC MEETING.

Sir Frederick Halliday when Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal claimed the right of citizenship and moved the first Resolution at the meeting held in honour of Lord Dalhousie. In accordance with this precedence, Sir Richard Temple presided over the meeting held in honour of Lord Northbrook in 1876.—(*H. P.* April, 17, 1876.)

SIR CECIL BEADON.

In 1880, the Hon'ble Babu Kristo Das Pal noticed his death thus :—

“ Another old Indian has passed away. Sir Cecil Beadon, third Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, died on the 8th instant, in the 64th year of his age, at his seat, Crickland Vicarage, Wiltshire. Honest, straight-forward, able and god-fearing, he was one of the best specimens of the old Haileybury Service. For the people of this country he cherished a warm sympathy, and did everything that lay in his power to elevate their position socially and in the State service. No member of the Civil Service did more to promote the higher education of our countrymen. As an administrator he distinguished himself in every department with which he came in contact, and for the service he did in improving the Postal Department, in

reducing and equalizing the postage rates, and in introducing the stamp system, he will be long honorably remembered as the Rowland Hill of India. During the Mutiny he was the right hand man of Lord Canning, and it was through his advice and co-operation that that nobleman was enabled to avert a great deal of mischief which the "Vigilance Committeemen" of the day threatened to bring on. As Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal he brought to his task a well-stored mind, a generous sympathy and thorough experience in every department of the service. Unfortunately about the close of his reign when his health had broken down, there broke out a dire famine in Orissa, and, led by evil and incompetent advisers on whom he had to rely, he was unable to cope with it. His memory, however, will be long cherished by the people with lively sense of gratitude and affection."

SIR CECIL BEADON AND PUNDIT ISHUR CHUNDER VIDYASAGAR.

The Pundit was a right hand man of Sir Cecil Beadon. When the Pundit made a great effort to put down polygamy in Bengal, by a legislative enactment, Sir Cecil helped him in every way possible. What we heard from the Pundit himself on this subject is this:—

The Pundit was advised by Cecil Beadon to present a memorial from the Hindus of Bengal in support of a legislative enactment. Vidyasagar thereupon saw the Maharajahs of Burdwan and Krishnaghur and induced them to sign a memorial. The members of the British Indian Association, including the late Babu Joy Kishen Mukerji, the late Rajah Degumber Mitter, the late Rajah Romannath Tagore and others, at first approved of his proposal and encouraged him in every way possible. The memorial was then submitted with the name of His Highness the Maharajah of Burdwan at the top of the signatories. At this, said Vidyasagar to us, the Calcutta zemindars took offence, and tried secretly to baffle the project. It was after a good deal of correspondence with the Supreme Government, a Commission was appointed to report on this subject. But the representatives of the Calcutta zemindars on this Commission took a hostile attitude in the matter, and the project fell through. It was for this treachery, said Vidyasagar to us, he never crossed the threshold of these Zemindars.

THE ORIGIN OF THE DECENTRALIZATION
SCHEME AND SIR WILLIAM GREY.

A correspondent under the *nom de plume* of “*Audi alteram partem*” wrote in the *Indian Observer* of May 31, 1873, thus:—

“It was as long ago as Sir John Lawrence’s time that the Government of India wrote a positive order to Sir W. Grey to add 2 per cent. to the Government land revenue in Bengal (as is done in the North-West), to apply the proceeds to pay for roads and partly for schools, to reduce the Imperial expenditure on higher education, and thus to diminish the charges under the Imperial Exchequer.

Sir W. Grey after a long time, in a long letter, objected to the 2 per cent. on the permanent settlement altogether, objected to any new extra tax on Bengal, objected to reducing the expenditure on higher education, and only “objected less” to paying for the roads by a local rate of some kind.

The difference was appealed to the Secretary of State, who sent out an over-sugared letter in which he decided that the permanent settlement was no bar to a rate in Bengal, but that such rate must be general : also that, if such a rate was imposed for special purposes as roads and schools, it should be made as far as possible a Municipal or County Rate, and that Municipal Institutions should be developed and have large control in the expenditure thereof.

The Government of India evaded this partial defeat by bringing out their decentralization scheme. This scheme was finally issued, after passing through Sir R. Temple’s hands, as a scheme for relieving the Government of India of the financial pressure on it.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL AND
MR. BROADLEY.

We take the following from the *Hindu Patriot* of 1872:—

“The Dacca People’s Association lately held a meeting, at which Mr. Broadley, Assistant Magistrate was present and spoke; a “boy-correspondent” of the *Indian Mirror* reported him, and attributed to him certain remarks on the educational policy of Mr. Campbell and on the Criminal Procedure Code,

which are now denied. It is stated that the Lieutenant Governor did not like these remarks, and as Mr. Broadley had applied for leave, His Honor rejected his application, and called upon him for an explanation. Notwithstanding the angry discussions which this matter has evoked in certain papers, we have not been able, we confess, to get at the real truth about it. But one thing we cannot understand. If Judges of the High Court can attend public meetings and discourse on all manner of subject, we do not see why Assistant Magistrates should be punished for airing their tongue. Mr. Broadley spoke at the great Education Meeting of 1872, but neither the Bengal Government nor the Government of India thought fit to punish him, though he condemned the educational policy of the latter. But the times are changed."

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL IN THE HIGH COURT.

As a Judge of the High Court he once presided over a criminal Sessions of that Court, and after two days he begged Sir Barnes Peacock to be relieved from his duties.—(H. P. Jany. 10, 1881.)

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL AND THE CONFERRAL OF THE TITLE OF "HON'BLE" ON THE MEMBERS OF THE BENGAL COUNCIL.

The late lamented Hon'ble Kristo Das Pal wrote the following in the *Hindoo Patriot* of Feb. 3, 1873:—

"As the reader is aware that title was conferred by the Lieutenant-Governor without even a reference to the Viceroy who in this country is the fountain of honor. When His Excellency observed in the *Calcutta Gazette* that the members of the Bengal Council had been dubbed "Honourable" without his sanction, he very properly caused a letter to be addressed to the Bengal Government questioning its com-

petency to take independent action in the matter under notice. In reply His Honor pointed out that the members of the Bombay and Madras Legislative Councils were "Honourables," and that those of his own Council were in no way inferior to them in social status. His Honor, so runs the rumour, also observed that the Bengal Government could not maintain its dignity, if it were to be interfered with by the Governor-General in such trivial matters. The Viceroy did not choose to carry the matter further and allowed a Notification to be issued, conferring the title of "Honourable" on the Members of the Bengal Legislative Council, though we are not quite sure whether pressure of the Secretary of State was brought to bear upon His Excellency in coming to this decision."

ANOTHER ANECDOTE.

The same writer wrote thus:—

"The Bombay Government Gazette contains the following notification:—

It having been ascertained that the undermentioned persons while employed in the Commissariat Department during the operations in Southern Afghanistan, had amassed sums of money quite incompatible with their pay and position in the Department, His Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased to direct that the first-named, who is on the permanent establishment, be dismissed, and that he and the other two, who were temporarily engaged during the campaign, shall never be re-employed in any capacity under Government: Shapoorjee Eduljee, inspector; Manockjee Rustomjee, overseer; Mahomed Ali Lookmanji, purchasing agent.

This reminds us of an act of rough justice done by Sir George Campbell. Sir George was touring and landed at a Behar station; he espied a newly-built excellent house, and enquired to whom did it belong. He was told that it belonged to an Eurasian Overseer. He immediately went over to the Magistrate's office and asked him whether he knew

the Overseer, what was his pay, and whether that officer had any other source of income. The Magistrate replied that he knew the man, that his pay was Rs. 150 a month, and that he had no other source of income in his (the Magistrate's) knowledge. Sir George immediately wrote an order—"dismiss the overseer." The Magistrate asked for reason; Sir George replied—"the man draws a pay of Rs. 150 a month, and has built house well worth Rs. 300,000. This is sufficient reason." Characteristic!"

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL AND THE HON'BLE JUSTICES F. B. KEMP, AND MR. BUDD PHEAR.

We quote the following from the same writer:—

"The *Englishman* had the "best authority" for contradicting the *Pioneer's* statement about the collision between Sir George Campbell and Mr. Justice Kemp anent the Great Purneah Case, and the *Indian Observer* has the "best authority" for stating that the following facts given in the *Pioneer* are correct inspite of the denial of our Hare Street contemporary :

"The most piquant portions of the correspondence between Sir George Campbell and Mr. Justice Kemp, are as follows:—Sir George Campbell wrote to ask the learned Judge if he would reconsider that passage in his judgment in which he said that the Collector of Purneah, not being able to discover the culprit, set to work to find a victim. The learned Judge replied—and Mr. Justice Phear joined in the letter—that their judgments were sent to the Lieutenant-Governor, not for criticism, but in order to come to a conclusion as to the desirability of sending an officer to Purneah to investigate the charges against Abdul Kadir. (*H. P.* August 4. 1873.)

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL'S DISLIKE OF THE BENGALI LANGUAGE AND THE *AMRITA BAZAR PATRIKA*.

In 1871, Sir George Campbell is said to have expressed his contempt for our sacred mother tongue. The *Amrita*

Bazar thereupon wrote a bitter satire, the purport of which we quote from the *Indian Observer* of January 6, 1871.

"The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* has a resolution of the Lieutenant-Governor's about the Bengali language which we had not seen before. He says :—"I could never distinguish one Bengali letter from another, so similar and dissimilar they are. I therefore propose to give a civilized form to the characters. The letter *ka* has a trunk like that of an elephant, but a letter can have nothing to do with so huge an animal. It is unscientific, unnatural, and absurd. I therefore abolish the trunk of the *ka*. I also abolish the word *chha* from the Bengali alphabet. It has a dare-devil look, and is unpronounceable. This deduction of one letter will lessen the labours of writers, printers, type-founders, and the general public."

Sir George Campbell, said the *Amrita Bazar* in its issue of the 7th March, 1895, was so much non-plussed by the bitter sarcastic tone of that paper, that he once proposed through Babu Kunja Lal Banerji to offer a pecuniary grant of Rs. 500 per mensem to that paper to silence its tongue.

MR. LOBB, PRINCIPAL OF THE KRISHNAGHUR COLLEGE, AND SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL.

Mr. Lobb, one of the most able and prolific writers among the Bengal educationists wrote a series of articles on the "British Raj," in the *Bengalee* for which he was taken to task by Sir George Campbell. He was "interdicted" by the Lieutenant-Governor "not to do so again."

THE KNIGHTING OF SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL.

The *Indian Observer* in its issue of May 17, 1873 thus wrote on the subject :—

"It is strange that none of our contemporaries should remember that knighthood is not always conferred by way of reward. The late king William the Fourth, when he was asked how he would mark his displeasure respecting the conduct of a certain Admiral replied "Displeasure, Sir! by Jove, I have Guelphed him."!! James the First who made two hundred and thirty-seven Knights in six weeks, is reported to have said to an insignificant person he was about to knight and who held his head down as though conscious of his own unworthiness, "Hold up thy head, mon, I have more need to be ashamed than thee."

SIR RICHARD TEMPLE AND THE ORIGIN OF THE "INDIAN LEAGUE."

Babu Shishir Kumar Ghose, the renowned editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, and Dr. Sumbhu Chunder Mukherji, the late lamented editor of *Reis* and *Rayyet*, started "The Indian League," as a rival political Association in 1875. Sir Richard Temple, then Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal shewed great sympathy with the object of this Association, and helped it in various ways. It was through the earnest agitation of the "League," Sir Richard conferred the right of Municipal election on the Calcutta Corporation, against the wishes of the members of the British Indian Association.

The *Englishman* of that year contained a full report of the inaugural meeting.

"Proposed by Babu Prosad Das Mullick, seconded by Babu Jodu Nath Ghose, and supported by Babu Nobin Chunder Palit.

I. That this meeting, feeling the necessity of such a standing organization, hereby founds a Society for representing and furthering, by all legitimate means, within the bounds of the constitution and loyalty, the genuine wants and deliberate wishes and aspirations—political, commercial, and administrative—of all classes of Her Majesty's subjects, under the name and style of "The Indian League."

Proposed by Babu Parbutty Shunkar Rai Chowdhry and seconded by Babu Prannath Pundit.

II. That Babu Kali Mohun Das be elected Secretary and Babu Shishir Kumar Ghose, Assistant Secretary to the "League," and that the following gentlemen be appointed as members of the Managing Committee, with power to add to their number to carry on the general business of the "League."

[Here follow the names.]

Amendment proposed by Babu Shishir Kumar Ghosh, and seconded by Babu Mohendronath Shome:—That Babus Kali Mohun Das and Jogesh Chunder Datta be appointed Secretaries to the League.

Proposed by Babu Janoki Nath Rai and seconded by Babu Horolal Mittra.

III. That the Managing Committee be requested to consider whether any steps, or what steps should be taken in connection with the auspicious Advent of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales."

Babu Sumbhuchunder Mookerjee was in the chair.—(H. P. Oct. 4. 1875.)

The "Indian League" raised a large sum of money by public subscriptions with which, it is said to have established a technical school of which nothing is heard now-a-days.

The Association lived for a few years only and died of inanition and want of cohesion on the part of its promoters. The Indian Association having been formed in 1879, the "League" became gradually a thing of the past.

SIR ASHLEY EDEN.

The Hon'ble Babu Kristo Das, in a leading article in 1877, on his elevation to the Bengal musnud wrote as follows:—

In 1854 he was appointed Assistant Magistrate in charge of the Sub-division of Arangabad. It was there he was confronted with the Sonthal Rebellion, and shewed great pluck, vigour, and resources of the mind. He accompanied Mr. Toogood, the Magistrate, who was the Civil Officer with the retributive force against the Sonthals. He himself fought and sent a bullet through the ribs of one of the Sonthal leaders, Sidhu or Kann, we forget which. After the suppression of the Sonthal Revolt he was appointed Assistant Commissioner of Nya-doomka in 1856. In 1857 he was appointed Joint-Magistrate of Baraset, 24½ Pergunnahs. Baraset has the reputation of cherishing two of the ablest members of the Bengal Civil Service, Mr. C. B. Trevor, late a Judge of the High Court, and the Hon'ble Ashley Eden, the present Lieutenant-Governor. Baraset in those days, though a sub-district, occupied the rank of a second class district, and the Joint-Magistrate in charge of it occupied a high position. It was here that Mr. Eden studied the Indigo question, and resolved to fight the battle of the poor Indigo serfs. Sir Frederick Halliday was then the Lieutenant Governor, and Mr Grote the Divisional Commissioner. Sir Frederick was reputed to be very friendly to the Indigo planters—people went to the length of saying that he had a share in the Bengal Indigo Company. Mr. Grote was fond of peace, and very loth to disturb the planters, who were a powerful party, and who he probably felt would be sure to give him trouble if he trod upon their corns. But Mr. Eden was made of sterner stuff. He was not a man to see quietly the oppressions committed upon the ryots without exercising his legitimate authority to protect them. He had therefore many a passage at arms with Mr. Grote and Sir Frederick Halliday. As a matter of course he was snubbed, but truth will triumph. Mr. John Peter Grant succeeded Sir Frederick Halliday, and he at once espoused the cause

of down-trodden humanity in the Indigo districts. He ratified Mr. Eden's celebrated order to the Deputy-Magistrate of Kalarooa, prohibiting the Police to assist in the cultivation of Indigo, and declaring that the ryot was a free agent, and that it rested with him to cultivate Indigo or not. For the first time the ryots learned that they were free men, and they asserted their rights. The result was a general rising among the Indigo ryots, and the reader is well acquainted with the history of that struggle. When a Commission was appointed to report on the system of Indigo cultivation in Bengal Mr. Eden was summoned to give evidence, and no other witness before the Commission gave evidence with such thorough knowledge of facts, ability, clearness and boldness as he did. In fact his evidence decided the fate of the rotten Indigo system. From Baraset he went to Pooree as Magistrate and Collector, where he shewed great energy. He then went home for a short time. On return to India he was appointed Junior Secretary to the Board of Revenue. The knowledge and ability which he exhibited at the Board attracted the notice of Mr. Cecil Beadon, who appointed him Officiating Secretary to the Bengal Government. Soon after however we believe he was deputed as British Envoy to the Court of Sikkim; in this mission he proved eminently successful. He opened that frontier state to British trade. He returned to the Bengal Secretariat, and was after a short time charged with another political mission. This time he was deputed to Bhootan. In this mission he was made a victim of conflicting orders of the Government of Bengal and India. Sir John Lawrence was then the Governor-General of India, and Mr. Aitchison Under-Secretary of the Foreign Department.

* * * * *

But eventually the Bhootan mission was carried out with success. We find Mr. Eden again in the Bengal Secretariat. He went to England on furlough in 1868, and returned to India after a year. Sir William Grey had then succeeded Sir Cecil Beadon, and he was too well alive to the superior abilities of Mr. Eden to forego his assistance in the Secretariat. Mr. Eden continued one of the chief secretaries to the Bengal Government under Sir William Grey, and in 1871 Lord Mayo appointed him Chief Commissioner of British Burma. This was the first instant of the appointment of a Bengal Civilian to the Burmah Commission, and Lord Mayo's choice was fully justified by Mr. Eden's brilliant administration of British Burmah. In four years he converted it into a Garden of Eden. He rendered signal services to the State by the judicious measures he adopted for the purchase of rice from his province for the relief of the sufferers from the famine in Bengal in 1873-74. He was then for a short time appointed an additional member of the Legislative Council, and also to the executive Council during the absence of Mr. now Sir, Clive Bayley. We now find him installed as the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. He is now *Gazetted* as

officiating Lieutenant-Governor, but we believe it is understood that after three months Sir Richard Temple takes the Governorship of Bombay, and that Mr. Eden becomes the *pukka* Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

AN ANECDOTE.

It was in 1877, a rural Sub-Registrar had left his office on Sunday to visit his family in the neighbourhood, and the Inspector of Registration, Mr. Harrison reported him to the Inspector-General who suspended him for one month, or fined him one month's pay. Sir Ashly Eden, the then Lieutenant-Governor gave the Inspector-General a sharp wiggling for his heartless order.—(*H. P.* April 9, 1877.)

SIR ASHLEY EDEN AND THE MAURITIUS COOLIES.

After the suppression of the Sontal rebellion, he took a flight to Mauritius where his bowels of compassion were moved by the sufferings of the Indian coolies at the hands of the Creole planters. An Indian print wrote:—"The massacre of the Indian coolies perpetrated at Flat Island under the name of quarantine, roused Mr. Eden's indignation. His scathing letters in the local papers drove Creole planters wild; whilst his statements to Government on his return to Calcutta led Lord Canning summarily to suspend all cooly emigration to the Mauritius until the Colonial Government gave substantial guarantees that such a scandal should not occur. He wrote bitter satires in the columns of the *Indian Field* and the *Indian Empire* on the doings of the Indigo planters of Bengal.—(*H. P.* April 17, 1882.)

REV. J. C. M. BELLEW VS. THE HON'BLE ASHLEY EDEN.

In the *Friend of India* of March 9, 1854, we read the following:—

"The crim. con. case of the Rev. J. C. M. Bellew, *vs.* the Hon'ble Sir Ashley Eden came on in the Supreme Court of Calcutta, on Friday, the 3rd instant. The suit was undefended, but mitigation of damages was sought on the ground of the youth of the defendant. Damages were finally given for £500.

ANALOGOUS CASE TO THE CRIM. CON. CASE OF SIR ASHLEY EDEN.

We read in the *Friend of India* of April 20, 1834, that the crim. con. case of *Hadow vs.*, Henry has terminated in a verdict for the plaintiff.

SIR RIVERS THOMPSON'S ACT OF KINDNESS TO A CONVICT.

Sir Rivers Thompson once came to Ranaghat on a gubernatorial visit in 1879, we believe. While he was inspecting the local English school, a poor girl, as stated in the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* at the time, of about eight or nine years of age, with ragged clothes on, and tears running down her cheeks, came all on a sudden and took hold of the feet of the Lord of Belvedere, with a petition in her hands. She was the daughter of the late Babu Bhubun Mohun Bose, who was sentenced to fourteen years' rigorous imprisonment in 1869 by Mr. Monro, then Sessions Judge of Nuddea, on the charge of having embezzled public money from the Bongong treasury. Sir Rivers Thompson was so much moved by the piteous appeal of the girl, that he immediately lifted her up, and heard from Rai Bahadur Radhika Prosunno Mukerji, the Inspector of schools, what she had represented in her humble memorial. He made enquiries about the distressed family of Babu Bhubun Mohun, and promised then and there to issue an order to the Inspector-General of Jails to release her poor father from the Bhagulpore Jail, granting remission of sentence for a year or two.

SIR CHARLES ELLIOTT AND OUR HUMBLE SELVES.

It was in 1893, we brought out a book called "The Record of criminal cases as between Europeans and Natives for the last sixty years," with the active co-operation of our esteemed friend, the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerji. Under what peculiar circumstances we published the book, we need not describe here. Suffice it to say that its publication gave great offence to Sir Charles Elliott. Before its publication, Maharaj Kumar Benoy Krishna Bahadur of Sova Bazar

requested us, with what motive we do not know, to desist from the undertaking, but we paid no attention to his request.

In the next year, we published the first volume of the "Reminiscences and Anecdotes of great men of India" for the last hundred years, and asked the patronage of His Honor to take a copy of it, in utter forgetfulness of the fact that he cherished a bitter hatred towards us. In reply to our humble and respectful request, his private Secretary wrote the following letter.

BELVEDERE.

CALCUTTA.

The 27th August, 1894.

SIR,—In reply to your letter of the 23rd, requesting the patronage of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor in buying a copy of your new book entitled "The Reminiscences and Anecdotes of Great Men of India," I am requested by His Honour to say that the author of the book, entitled the "Record of criminal cases between Europeans and Natives for the last 60 years" will not receive any patronage from the Head of the Local Government.

I am, Sir,

yours obediently,

A. C. ELLIOTT, *Lieut.*,

Private Secretary.

Babu Ram Gopal Sanyal.

We make no comments on this unhappy affair. But we think it would be unfair to the reputation of the previous Lieutenant-Governors, were we to mince the fact, that in response to our earnest and respectful appeal, Sir Rivers Thompson helped us with Rs. 25, when we, in 1886, prepared the biography of the late lamented Hon'ble Kristo Das Pal,

and that his successor, Sir Steuart Bayley kindly encouraged us by taking our books, as would appear from the following:—

BELVEDERE.

Dec., 18th 1886.

SIR,

I am desired by the Lieutenant-Governor to thank you for your letter of the 15th instant and for the two copies of your Life of the late Kristodas Pal, which you have kindly sent him.

Yours faithfully,

F. C. BARNES.

Private Secretary.

Babu Ram Gopal Sanyal.



REMINISCENCES AND ANECDOTES OF GOVERNORS, GOVERNORS-GENERAL AND VICEROYS OF INDIA.

CHAPTER III.

LORD CLIVE.

(FROM 1758—1767.)

THE REVOLT OF CIVILIANS AGAINST LORD CLIVE IN 1760.

The Rev. Mr. Long in his introduction to his *Selections* from the Records of the Government of India thus wrote on the subject in page 49 :—

“ In 1760, some of the Senior Civilians had been suspended, presumably for some sort of misconduct, and as none of the juniors were qualified for the higher posts, Lord Clive was obliged to send to Madras for recruits. Thereupon a terrible excitement arose among the members of the Service in Calcutta, and at a meeting held in Mr. Vansittart's garden house, it was resolved “ that the Madras gentlemen should be treated with insolence and contempt, and that any person belonging to the settlement, who should presume to show the least civility or countenance, should be branded with ignominy and banished society.” At the same time it was decided that no Civil Servant should dine with Lord Clive ! ! !

WARREN HASTINGS.

(FROM 1772—1785.)

WARREN HASTINGS AND SIR PHILIP FRANCIS.

The former sent his Private Secretary down to Khedgeri to welcome Sir Francis, General Clavering, and Colonel Monson. Francis complained bitterly of the mode in which he had been received. It was then that feeling of animosity

was engendered which embittered the feelings of these two men towards each other for thirty years. The refusal of two guns extra to Sir Philip Francis, when he landed at Calcutta, after his temper had been soured by his having been five days on his voyage from Khedgeri was the beginning, if not the cause, of that course of hostility to Warren Hastings, which led to some memorable consequences.—(*F. I.* May 10, 1849.)

THE GENERAL REGULATIONS OF WARREN HASTINGS IN 1772.

On the 5th August, 1772, Warren Hastings passed the Regulations in which suits of inheritance according to Hindu and Mahomedan Laws were allowed to be decided. In the same Regulations, it was enacted for the suppression of dacoity that every individual living in a village to which a dacoity belonged, should be fined according to his substance, and that the family of the dacoit should become the slaves of the state!!!—(*F. I.* Nov., 22, 1849.)

MARQUIS OF CORNWALLIS.

(FROM 1786—1793 AND 1805.)

THE PROMULGATOR OF OFFICE HOURS FROM TEN TO FIVE.

Previous to his time, all the public offices under the British Government were held, according to the custom of this country, both in the morning and in the evening. It was Marquis of Cornwallis who, for the first time, ordered all the offices to be held from 10 to 5 p. m. He himself, it is said, showed example by regularly attending his office in the Government House at that prescribed hour.

MARQUIS OF WELLESLEY.

(FROM 1798—1805.)

MARQUIS OF WELLESLEY (LORD MORNINGTON) AND THE BAPTIST MISSIONARIES OF SRERAMPORE.

On the 13th of October 1799, four Baptist Missionaries, who had arrived in the *Criterion*, an American vessel, and had neither friend nor acquaintance in Calcutta, proceeded to Srerampore by the advice of their kind commander, Captain Wickes, and took

lodging at the hotel. Their intention was to join Dr. Carey, in the District of Maldah. Just at this period the emissaries of Bonaparte were known to be in the country in the guise of Roman Catholic priests, collecting political and military information. It used to be affirmed at the time, that Mr. Pitt, having discovered the intention of the French to send an engineer officer on this errand to India, had contrived to obtain his portrait, and transmitted it to Lord Wellesley, who, on the arrival of the agent in Calcutta, sent for him, and enquired whether he recognized the likeness, and on his confessing the object which had brought him out immediately ordered him to quit the country. We cannot vouch for the truth of this anecdote, it was generally believed at the time, and may serve to explain the vigilance which the British Government was obliged to exercise at this season of political danger.

When Lord Wellesley heard that the four "Papist Missionaries," as they were mistakeably called, had proceeded to Serampore, he considered them as spies of the French Government. The Commander of the vessel in which they had arrived was therefore summoned to the Police and ordered to enter without delay into an engagement to take them back, on pain of not being allowed to discharge his cargo. In this dilemma, the Missionaries applied to the Rev. David Brown who explained to his Lordship that Dr. Marshman and Mr. Ward, and their two colleagues were not French spies, but Dissenting Missionaries, and the embargo was removed. But their journey into the country to join Dr. Carey was effectually arrested. At that period no European was permitted to proceed into the interior without a pass. The rule was not really enforced "&c. Mr. Ward died in 1823, Dr. Carey in 1834, and Dr. Marshman in 1837.—(*Calcutta Review*, No. VIII.)

MARQUIS OF WELLESLEY AND THE TIGER'S HEAD.

Mr. R. Montgomery Martin in a letter dated 10th Feb., 1841, addressed to the *London Morning Chronicle* stated, that the "tiger's head" was taken from the Tipoo Sultan by Lord Wellesley, and sent it along with other trophies to the Queen, and nobly refused the share of the prize money £100,000 offered to his lordship by Mr. Pitt, and Mr. Dundas, &c.—(*Hurk*, May 12, 1841.)

REGULATION VII OF 1802.

Section 35,—“To facilitate the re-apprehension of convicts sentenced to confinement for life, who may make their

escape from jail, all convicts of this description are to have the following particulars inscribed on their foreheads, viz., their name, the crime of which they have been convicted, the date of the sentence passed against them, and the name of the division, by the Court of which it may have been passed. This inscription is to be made by the process, termed *godenca*, by which the Hindoo women ornament their faces, and which leaves a blue mark that can not be effaced without tearing off the skin." Under this Regulation order, a convict named Satoor, an Armenian "was branded on his forehead in the Nagree language" for man slaughter of which he was convicted and sentenced to transportation for life.

(*Englishman*, November 15, 1845.)

EARL OF MINTO.

(FROM 1806—1815.)

EARL OF MINTO AND THE SRERAMPORE MISSIONARIES.

On their arrival he shewed "most active hostility towards these Missionaries. The Governor of Srerampore was ordered to withdraw his protection from them, and to send them and their Press to Calcutta. He (the Srerampore Governor) wrote in reply, that as these Missionaries were under the patronage of His Majesty the Frederick the VI, it was impossible for him to surrender them to the British authorities. Lord Minto afterwards showed kindness to these Missionaries."—(*Calcutta Review* VIII.)

MARQUIS OF HASTINGS (EARL OF MOIRA.)

(FROM 1815—1823.)

RESOLUTION OF 1821 BY THE MARQUIS OF HASTINGS.

The Governor-General in Council issued a Resolution dated 31st Oct., 1821, prohibiting transactions with the

Natives on the part of their servants. In 1813 a General Order was issued on the 17th of September of that year cautioning all Civil and Military Officers against carrying on any communication with Native Princes and Chiefs, or their vakils, except through the channel of the Political Agents of Government. The first order was promulgated on Sir James Carnac's carriage being sold to a native for Rs. 10,000.—(*F. I. Nov.*, 23, 1848.)

EARL AMHERST.

(FROM 1823—1828.)

EARL AMHERST AND THE PRESS.

On the 11th of May, 1826, the Right Honourable Lord Amherst and Charles Lushington Esq., who was then Chief Secretary to the Government of India, passed an order in Council, prohibiting the servants of Government from having any connection with the Press. About two years after, Lord William Bentinck rendered the press substantially free, and the restriction imposed by Lord Amherst became totally inoperative. Mr. R. D. Mangles, Mr. H. M. Parker, Mr. C. E. Trevelyan, and Mr. J. P. Grant wrote to the newspapers without restriction. In 1836, Sir Charles Metcalfe freed the press by law from all shackles, and on the 19th of April 1841, the Court of Directors revoked "the existing prohibition against the connection of their servants with the public newspapers."—(*Friend of I. Jan.*, 24, 1850.)

EARL AMHERST AND THE MOGUL EMPEROR.

In 1827, Lord Amherst on a visit to Delhi made a final settlement with the Emperor of Delhi by virtue of which, the British Government of India was rendered free from tokens of vassalage shewn previously to the Mahomedan Emperor.—(*F. I. Aug.* 12, 1847.)

LORD WILLIAM CAVENDISH BENTINCK.
(FROM 1828—1835.)

The Hon'ble Babu Kristo Dass Pal related the following Anecdote in his paper in 1882.

"Lord William used to visit public offices and courts unawares, and thus to see how things went on in their naked state. We will mention one instance. One day his Lordship took a ticca ghari and visited the courts of 24-Pergunnahs. It was just at 11 A. M., his Lordship called, but the Huzur had not arrived. His Lordship went from room to room, and it was all noise and confusion. It was as if a regular *hat* or mart was going on—nobody was at his post or did his work. One solitary man was, however, at his work—it was the head-clerk. Him his Lordship questioned about this and that connected with the business of the Court, once or twice he gave civil answers, but he did not like to be interrupted in the midst of his work, so he gruffly said that he was a servant of the Company and could not afford to waste his time in idle talk. The poor man did not know whom he was addressing! Lord William patiently waited at the *Kutchari*—the clock struck one, two, three, when the Judge Sahib at last made his majestic appearance! There was a rush and hush, every one was at his place, and the Court was then in full swing. After the Judge has taken his seat on the bench Lord William Bentinck stepped forward and handed him his card. The Lord of the Court immediately hung his face, Lord William asked him if he attended his Court daily so late, and he could not say—nay! On return to Government House Lord William Bentinck immediately ordered the transfer of the Judge from the District and rewarded the head-clerk, whom he saw do his duty, by appointing him a Sudder Amin."

HIS ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE PRESS.

"Of all our former Governors-General, the only one who did not care a button for any of the remarks made on him in the papers, was Lord William Bentinck, and he made a point of reading all the journals, availing himself of all the information they gave him, and treating their censures with his own peculiar sardonic smile."
(*F. I. May*, 21, 1847.)

THE ICE COMPANY.

He presented Mr. Tudor, the Ice King of Calcutta with a silver cup as a token of his gratitude for the introduction of ice, to which his Lordship was so greatly indebted for the restoration of health.—(*F. I. Oct.* 18, 1849.)

REMINISCENCE ABOUT SIMLA.

A correspondent of the *Pioneer* furnished the following running history of Simla as the summer seat of the Government of India in 1876 :

"The first Governor-General on record who went to the hills was Lord William Bentinck about forty years ago. Wellesley and Bentinck were antipodes. Wellesley was a stout old Tory of the Regency. Bentinck was a feeble Liberal of the Reform era. Bentinck flourished in a pecksniffian age of civilisation and philanthropy of elevating the native mind, sending up balloons, planting tea gardens, importing steamers, opening up a trade with Siberia, and a thousand other schemes more or less Utopian. Lord William Bentinck went to Ootacamund, and Mr. Macaulay, "our accomplished colleague" as he was called, went with his Lordship. Mr. Macaulay was Law Commissioner on ten thousand a year. He compiled the Black Act, wrote Edinburgh reviews of Clive and Hastings; and penned an educational minute in which he confounded the study of Sanskrit with a blind belief in seas of milk and sugar. During the Afghan and Sikh wars Ootacamund was forgotten, and Simla became a centre of political life. Lord Auckland issued his declaration of war against Cabul from the heights of Simla; and when that war was over, Lord Ellenborough issued his proclamation about the gates of Somnath from the same locality: Lord Dalhousie and Lord Canning frequented Simla. But in those days the Governor-General left his Council at Calcutta and was attended only by his Foreign Secretary. It was not until the administration of the present Lord Lawrence that the whole Government of India began to move every year to Simla. The plan of taking all the members of Council, the Secretaries, and their respective households to Simla, is said to have been concocted by Sir Gregory Hardines (sic) of course under the influence of charming women. But the legal member had already set the ball going. Sir Henry Maine went to Simla during the previous reign of Lord Elgin, just as Mr. Macaulay had gone to Ootacamund with Lord William Bentinck. But who can unravel mysteries in which lawyers and ladies are mixed up?"

 THE CONFERRAL OF TITLES.

In 1829 Lord William Bentinck sanctioned a scheme of titles for Hindus and Mahomedans, adapted by Sir Charles Trevelyan from those in vogue at the Delhi Court.

LORD WILLIAM BENTINCK IN THE BENGAL BANK.

He is said to have once on a time sent a cheque to the Bank of Bengal, which proved to be four annas beyond the sum at his credit. The cheque was immediately rejected. Lord William Bentinck, on being informed of the circumstances, applauded the proceeding, and remarked "this was the bank to do business with, which would not violate its rules in the smallest particular for the Governor-General himself."—(*F. I.* May 2, 1830.)

LORD WILLIAM BENTINCK AND HIS COOK.

The *Hurkura* tells a story of Lord William Bentinck and his cook:—This personage. M. Borasier, was selected by Prince Tallyrand, and on his arrival was received at Government House, as a private friend of the Governor-General. Lord William Bentinck was in the North-West, and the horror of Calcutta may be conceived when his Lordship requested the immediate attendance of Mr. Brasier, Chief-de-Cuisine.—(*F. I.* June 26. 1854.)

DR. CAREY AND THE REGULATIONS.

Dr. Carey was translator of the Regulations into Bengali. Lord William Bentinck put a stop to this practice and got the work done by civilians during their leisure hours. Lord Auckland appointed Mr. Marshman as translator on Rs. 500, a month.—(*F. I.* May. 5. 1849.)

LORD WILLIAM BENTINCK AND THE CIVIL COURTS.

"Even in civil matters the European British subject was not amenable to Courts presided over by native Judges, but in 1836, Lord William Bentinck abolished that invidious distinction."—(*H. P.* March 12, 1883.)

SIR CHARLES METCALFE.

(FROM 1835—1836.)

HIS EARLY LIFE.

Charles Theophilus Metcalfe, the second son of an officer of the Bengal Army, by virtue of rules and regulations extant in 1785, was born a cadet. His father, the late Sir Thomas Metcalfe, after retiring from the service, became a member of Parliament, and an

East India Director, in which last capacity, from being, during a considerable period, the only military man in the Court, he was supposed to possess more than ordinary influence.

The present Baronet, who succeeded to the title on the death of his elder brother about 1821, came out as a writer in the first year of the century. His name and connection, it is natural to suppose, may have first recommended the youth of fifteen to the notice of Lord Wellesley, whose well-known penetration enabled him to discover what most public servants had in them, and His Lordship seems to have perceived early, that the Director's son had capability to serve the state in the Political Department.

Young Metcalfe, on leaving the College, was placed for some time in the office of the Chief Secretary to Government. Whilst serving this sort of apprenticeship, he made a virtuous speech, and moved resolutions against the encouragement of those temporary and irregular marriages, which were known in these realms before the days of Mr. Macaulay's code, and with the assistance of Mr. John Adam, the stripling, it is said, defeated a scheme, then brought forward by senior Civilians, to quarter their natural children on the civil fund.

Mr. Metcalfe's first appointment beyond the seat of Government was Assistant to the Governor-General's Agent in the camp of Lord Lake, where he took the field against the Maharattas in 1803. There, besides forming acquaintance with others since distinguished in Indian diplomacy, the young politician gained the friendship of Ochterlony and Malcolm, which ended only with their lives.

He probably found less to do in this situation than would have been agreeable. Imbibing the spirit of his military associates, or more probably impelled by that love of distinction inseparable from an ardent mind, he threw off the gown and drew the sword. In this martial character, he mounted the breach with the storming party which took the fort of Dieg.

After the conclusion of peace, Mr. Metcalfe was attached to the Delhi Residency as a subordinate, but he obtained no conspicuous employment till 1809 when Lord Minto, unmoved by solicitation or even personal acquaintance, selected him for the office of Envoy to Runjeet Singh. The negociator, yet scarcely 24, then made a treaty at Amritsar with the astute Shiek (or Singha as he calls himself), which has the rare merit of having preserved amity on one of our most vulnerable points, for 29 years.

In 1810, Mr. Metcalfe was appointed Resident at Scindhia's Court, and in 1811, at Delhi. The latter situation which he held continuously for 7 years,—virtually the Satrapy of Upper India west of the Jumna,—had more substantial powers belonging to it, than he has latterly enjoyed as Governor or Lieutenant-Governor of Agra. It was during his *regime*, the revenue of the Delhi territory, since it came under British dominion, increased from 8 to 30 lacs annually. Twelve or fourteen years before Lord William

Bentinck, Mr. Metcalfe suppressed the burning of *shuttee* in that territory. In 1818, Mr. Metcalfe was summoned to Calcutta, by the Marquis of Hastings to take charge of the political office of Government, with the duty, then annexed to it, of principal Private Secretary to the Governor-General. In 1821, he obtained his transfer to the Residency at Hyderabad. His most conspicuous act was the abrogation of a loan advantageous to the lenders, Messrs. William Palmer and Co., and injurious to the Nizam, which had been previously accepted with the consent of the Governor-General, *not in Council*. It was by this act, the banking and mercantile firm was ruined, inflicting severe loss on their creditors, comprising almost every European on that side of India. The merchants raised a howl against it, but statesmen generally commended the act which made him very popular in Hyderabad.

The untoward event of 1825, called Mr. Metcalfe to the Delhi Residency. Lord Amherst's Secretarial conclave, after miring a gallant army for two years, and burying sixteen crores of rupees in the swamps of Ava, appeared so little formidable to the natives of the North-Western Provinces, that an adventurer called Durjan Shah dethroned the Rajah of Bhurtpore. The Calcutta Secretaries threw obstacles in the way of David Ochterlony in suppressing this rebel. The General died amidst the din of their obloquy, just at the time when he was fully prepared to strike a blow to this rebel.

No sooner Sir Charles Metcalfe ascertained the state of things in Upper India, consequent on the disasters of the Burmese campaigns, and the popular cry which had arisen, of *Feringhi hut jata* than he insisted, as the condition on which he undertook to rescue the Government from jeopardy, that the policy of David Ochterlony just before reprobated in the names of the Governor-General in Council, should be carried into effect. The seige, capture, and restoration of the Rajah of Bhurtpore immediately followed.

Sir Charles became a member of Council in 1827.

The occurrences of 1835, during his supremacy in the Government are too recent to require recital. The execution of Shamshudin whom the Supreme Court might have pronounced a foreign prince, arrested in his own territory, the procedure against that assassin, and the liberation of the press are right measures alike only in having been indicated by precedent, and of a nature from which an ordinary mind, left to its internal guidance, would have shrunk.—(*Englishman*, Feb. 13, 1838.)

THE FREE PRESS DINNER TO SIR CHARLES METCALFE, was held on Friday, the 9th Feb., 1838. Mr. Longueville Clarke was its Chairman, and Henry Meredith Parker, Esq., was Vice-Chairman. The stewards were—James Pattle, Col. Young, Theodore Dickens, Frederick Halliday, Charles Prinsep, Capt. Cockerell, Dr. Ranken, W. C. Hurry, Capt. Thompson, Capt. T.

Taylor, P. O'Hanlon, Capt. Forbes, Dr. John Grant, William Spiers, Dr. Goodeve, R. J. Bagshaw, William Bracken, R. W. G. Frith, Dwarkanath Tagore, J. F. Leith, W. P. Grant, R. S. Thompson, H. Burkinyoung, Prosunno Cumar Tagore, Capt. Vint, Rustomjee Cowasjee, Thomas Holroyd, William Prinsep, Thomas Boracken, James Sutherland, and William Patrick, Esqs.

Mr. Longueville Clarke said :—

“Gentlemen! having briefly alluded to the origin and results of the *Freedom of the Press*, I now approach the immediate object of the toast. The *Freedom of the Press in India*. (Cheers.) Those who are opposed to it, admit the excellency of the institution in other countries, but they alledge, that India is not prepared to receive it, and that peculiarities exist here which make its introduction dangerous. On this point I come to issue at once, and affirm broadly, that of all countries, British India requires the *Freedom of the Press*. (Cheers.) I draw no nice distinctions; I admit the local peculiarities which are relied upon, and I assert that it is the existence of these very peculiarities which imperatively require that the Press of India should be free. In support of this assertion, I appeal to the former and present state of this country, when the Press was restricted, and when the Press is free. Many of you must remember the abrogated order of the 5th April 1823, published by Government for the guidance and conduct of Editors. In that they were told, that they must not publish nor republish any thing,—no not even from the English papers—which might impugn the conduct or hurt the feelings of the King, or any of the Royal Family—the Court of Directors, or Authorities in England connected with England—the Governor-General, Members of Council, the Judges, Bishops, Government Officers, nor disturb the harmony or unanimity of society. If they could have relied on the veracity of the small note which followed, true it is, that they had slight reason to complain; for the order gravely assured them, that these prohibitions imposed no irksome restrictions on free discussion, or publishing information. (Laughter.) Aye, gentlemen, those who only read the order, may well laugh, but the working of it was not calculated to prove a matter of mirth to the proprietors of the two journals which were suppressed, or to the two editors who were banished. (Cheers.) Such, gentlemen, was the state of the country, when the Press was fettered, but what is its state now? Why, the first great point is, that we have the same law for the Press here as exists in England. The English who have come to this dismal clime, have not left their liberty behind them, and the natives of the soil find that the English have brought liberty to them. (Cheers.) I deny, gentlemen, that we are desirous of a partial despotism. Englishmen would banish despotism altogether. I deny that we want an atmosphere of liberty of our own; but the liberty which is our birth-right we would not

part with, and we would share it with our Native fellow subjects. (Loud cheers.) In the present state of the country, we do share with them the liberty of the Press, and this is the first contrast between our present and former state. The next contrast, gentlemen, is, that a system has been introduced alike beneficial for the governors and the governed. For the governors, it is beneficial, for it not only dissipates discontent, but it discloses in the germ by exposing the causes by which it is generated. Well did my friend, Mr. Turton say, when speaking from this chair, no man commits treason in a newspaper, and well did he allude to the evidence of Sir John Malcolm who disclosed the seditious libels which had secretly been circulated among the native soldiery, exciting them to mutiny, and the murder of their officers. That, gentlemen, could never have happened in a newspaper. (Cheers.) But, now, gentlemen, let me also recall to your recollection the peculiar situation of a Governor-General. In him the fault is not, but it is in the system. He may be the wisest, the most talented, and the best of men; yet when he lands on those shores what does he know of the country, the people, their language, their habits, customs or laws? He has to rule the destinies of eighty millions of people, without possessing those indispensable essentials for governing, experience and local knowledge. He must either be a useless tool in the hands of those who surround him, or, if he be deaf to their advice, his ignorance is his only guide. To this vast evil one remedy has been found, the freeing of the Indian Press. If injustice be practised, there the injured man can complain; if suggestions are to be offered, they can be there proclaimed, and canvassed by the public who may support their merits, or point out their inutility. What were the words of Lord William Bentinck, to the deputation of which I formed one. I repeat them in the presence of many who heard them with myself. "*That he had derived more information from the Indian Press, of the real state of the country, than from all the Councils, all the Boards, and all the Secretaries by whom he was surrounded.*" (Loud Cheers.)

Let us now, gentlemen, examine how far the freedom of the Press conduces to the weal of the governed. First, it confers on us freedom of discussion, which is the birth-right of every free man. The Majesty of the people is no idle phrase, for it imports that, which is really the case, that the true Sovereignty is in the Nation and not in the Ruler. All kings, all governors are in fact but the servants of the State, placed at its head for their talents, their knowledge, and their virtues, justly respected for these qualities, and looked up to with gratitude for the benefits they dispense. I abate not one tittle from the honour which is their due, and yield to no man for the respect in which I hold them. Yet is the government of the State entrusted to their care, not because it is their property, not because the people are their serfs or slaves, but in order that they may faithfully

discharge the duties of governing. (Cheers.) Can it be endured then, that the people for whom they hold their trusts, are not to question their acts, or that the right of discussing the measures of their rulers is to be denied to the State for whose service and weal they have been crowned. Hence, gentlemen, it is, that Freedom of discussion is a Freeman's birth-right, and by freeing the Press you benefit the governed, by freeing the Press you likewise extend the blessings of knowledge and enlighten the people,—a measure which all allow is of vital importance to India. In those countries where the Press is most free, is knowledge most diffused. It not only imparts instruction, but excites to learning, and the man who is opposed to the freeing of the Indian Press, must be the foe to enlightening the natives. (Loud cheers.) But, gentlemen, a stronger argument still remains. The Free Press and you strengthen the bond of union between the natives and British subject. Free the Press, and you teach the natives what European countries are, what England is ; you make them familiar with your laws, your manners, your arts, your sciences, your comforts, luxuries, wealth and independence; they draw the contrast between the state of things there, and in their country here, they perceive the difference between the spear and sword, the rapine and violence of the Maharatta and Pindari, and the protection of property and person by law. (Loud cheers.) Tell me then, will not the native find himself drawn towards the land and the nation who give him security and justice in exchange for distruction and plunder ? Tell me, will not the bond of union be strengthened ?

SIR CHARLES METCALFE'S SPEECH.

Gentlemen ! you have so overwhelmed me with your kindness, that I find myself quite unable to give expression to my feelings, or to return my thanks as I could wish. I possess not the eloquence of my friend, the President, to enable me to do so ; but I believe with him, and with you that a Free Press is a blessing in any country ; (much cheering.) and I perfectly concur in all he has said in praise of it as applied to this. (Cheers.) We have ample proof of the vast benefits accruing from a Free Press in our own country and in America, and it was on this proof that I acted as I did here, respecting the freedom of the Press. (Cheers.) I will proceed no further on the subject of the emancipation of the Press. Were I before another tribunal, I might defend that measure, (deafening cheers) but to do so here, is evidently quite unnecessary—perfectly superfluous. (much cheering.) You are all with me. (Cheers.) I shall conclude, gentlemen, with thanking you, first for the honor you have done me in inviting me to this party in celebration of the freedom of the Press, (cheers.) and, secondly, for the exceeding kindness with which you have just drunk my health. (Much cheering.)

C. R. PRINSEP, said :—

“No true friend of the Press will rest satisfied until he sees it placed under the safe-guard of the sole palladium of civil society—Trial by Jury. (Much cheering.) I see, gentlemen, I have touched a chord that thrills through all your hearts, I am content with that expression of your feelings ; but I can not sit down without drawing your attention to the facts that the Press of India enjoys little of that security. It is only in the Kings Courts that it can appeal to a Jury at all, and in those Courts it has no such appeal except upon a criminal charge. All its civil liabilities are left to the absolute discretion of the Judges, which English principles and English practice have denounced as a most unsafe tribunal. I have done enough to draw your attention to the necessity of going a step further, and obtaining the security of trial by Jury in all cases where the Press is concerned. That point gained all will be safe, all will be permanent. Tories may combine against it, Whigs may job, and Benthamites may blunder on. The Press shall bring its enemies to the ground one after another, when it shall be enabled to launch its weapons from underneath the Aegis of Jury trial.”

The President then read a letter from Babu Dwarka Nath Tagore, a portion of which runs thus :—

My dear Sir,—I sincerely believe that the liberating of the Press in India is one of the most valuable acts ever attempted by the Indian Government ; it strengthens their own hands and ears and eyes in ruling this vast region, and it is also a guarantee to the people that their rulers mean to govern with justice since they are not afraid to let their subjects to judge of their characters.

Yours, &c.,

(Sd.) DWARKA NATH TAGORE.

Mr. H. M. Parker, and Mr. J. F. Leith proposed the toasts for Babu Dwarka Nath Tagore and Rajah Ram Mohun Roy.

Babu Prosunna Kumar Tagore said :—Gentlemen ! as a friend of the late Raja Ram Mohun Roy, and one who was glad to participate, though in a minor degree, in the persecutions he suffered, and as a native of India, I rise to offer you my warmest thanks for the honor you have done to the memory of my late lamented friend ; and for the interest you have expressed for the improvement of my country. When you hear that we complain of omissions on the part of Government as regards the improvement of our country and the cause of our education, I wish you not to understand that we mean to say, that it has totally neglected to perform its duty, but that it has not done so in this respect as it ought and could have done. The day when the distinctions of colour, caste, and religion, and the difference between conquerors and conquered will

be totally banished is, I am happy to say, fast approaching, when we shall be treated not as conquered, but as fellow subjects of the British Crown. (Cheers.)

Some have thought fit to surmise, that by the diffusion of education among the people of India, the connection between her and England will ultimately be dissolved. These people, I say, are quite wrong, because if gratitude be a feeling inherent in human nature, and if education and enlightenment tend to cherish that feeling, how can it be asserted that, if India owe to England, her mother country, a heavy debt of gratitude for her enlightenment, that she will prove an ungrateful daughter? No, on the contrary, education and allowing to the people of India the exercise of the political privileges regarding the English, as at home, is the surest way of establishing British rule in India on the firmest basis."

Mr. T. Dickens said :—

"The end and aim of the Press of India may be well judged by a bare mention of the names of those who were engaged in it. Let me recal to you those of Fullerton, of Compton, of John Grant, of William Adam, of James Sutherland (may I be pardoned for speaking too of myself as one of those men) of my friend long since gone, Dr. Abel."—(*Hurk.* Feb. 12, 1838.)

AN ADDRESS TO LORD METCALFE.

A public meeting for the purpose of presenting an address on the part of the inhabitants of Calcutta to Lord Metcalfe was held on the 9th April 1846, on the occasion of the completion of the Metcalfe Hall, and the erection of His Lordship's bust thereon. Sir John Grant was in the chair. A dinner was held at the Metcalfe Hall on the 13th April, 1846, under the presidency of the same gentleman. The foundation of the Hall was laid in 1840.—(*Calcutta Star*, April 10, 1846.)

THE NAMES OF THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE TO VOTE AN ADDRESS TO LORD METCALFE G. C. B.

Earl of Buckland, Sir Edward Ryan, the Right Honourable Holt Mackenzie, the Honourable Mount Stewart Elphinstone, Major-General Galloway, C. B., Major-General Duncan M'Leod, Mr. H. T. Prinsep, Mr. W. B. Bayley, Mr. J. S. Bownrigg, M. P., and Dwarka Nath Tagore.—(*Englishman*, Sept. 5, 1846.)

LORD AUCKLAND.

(FROM 1836—1842.)

Presented as rewards a silver ink-stand, and a handsome box of mathematical instruments to Babus Kshetra Mohun Ghose and Bhobani Prosad Dutt, two students, of the 1st class of the Oriental Seminary respectively, through its proprietor, Babu Gour Mohun Addy.

LORD AUCKLAND AND MR. MARSHMAN.

Just after the Afghan catastrophe, the native journals, and more especially the Persian journals, teemed with treason. The British were described as animals. The Afghans were at hand. The Shah-i-Shah-i-Roos was coming. Lord Auckland was advised to abolish the entire press, and was for a moment, we believe, half tempted to agree. It was represented to him, however, mainly by Mr. Marshman, that no suppression could remove discontent. If the Mussulmans were really enraged, they would only wait all the more eagerly for their opportunity. If on the contrary they were only restless, it was wiser to keep the cork out of the bottle, to let the mixture effervesce without exploding. The project was abandoned.—(*F. I.* 1857.)

LORD AUCKLAND AT BRINDABUN.

He visited Brindabun and saw the idols from a distance with a telescope in 1840. At Mathura, he spent 1,500 rupees, at Radhakundu 500 Rs., and at Goburdhun Rs. 500. He gave presents to both Hindus and Boishnubs at Brindabun and Mathura.”—(*Chundrika*, 1840.)

BABU RUSSICK LAL SEN AND LORD AUCKLAND.

We take the following from the *Gyananyashun* of July 15, 1840 :—

“On Saturday last, the distribution of prizes to the students of the Barrackpore school, took place at the Government House in the Park. But what was most interesting to observe, was His Lordship’s remarkable condescension in taking off from his finger

a valuable gold ring and presenting it to the school master, Babu Russick Lal Sen in order to mark his sense of very good opinion, His Lordship entertains of the character and ability of this estimable young man."—(*F. I.* 23rd July, 1840.)

Lord Auckland awarded a surgical pocket case to Babu Rajkristo Chatterji of the Calcutta Medical College.

EARL OF ELLENBOROUGH.

(FROM 1842—1844.)

In the *Gazette of India*, of Aug. 30th 1843, Lord Ellenborough issued a notification prohibiting public officers from communicating official documents and papers, or information to the press.

HIS SENSE OF JUSTICE.

In the *Hindu Patriot* of 1876, appeared the following:—
 "We are told that the Town Major of Fort William had many years ago issued an order that no one should go into the Fort with a dog without a pass from him. A young Civilian serving in Alipore had occasion to see a friend, and went into the Fort with a dog in his buggy, the Sentry on duty stopped him and demanded the pass for the dog, but the haughty Civilian felt insulted and gave the Sentry a cut with his whip. He, however, threw his card at the Sentry, who took it to the Town Major, who in his turn handed up the Civilian to Lord Ellenborough, the then Governor-General. His Lordship was highly incensed at the conduct of the Civilian and summoned him to his presence and made him go and deliver a written apology to the Sentry. And this was done! And the example and warning had the most wholesome effect."

HIS ABHORRENCE OF NEWSPAPERS.

The *Calcutta Exchange Gazette* usually called Lord Ellenborough's journal from his having affirmed, that it was more

interesting than any other. Lord Ellenborough seldom read Indian newspapers.—(*F. I.* Aug. 9, 1849.)

LORD ELLENBOROUGH'S OTHER ACTS.

He drove out from his Council Chamber, Mr. Amos, then Legislative Member of the Supreme Council. He appointed Brigadier Robert who was his school-fellow at Firth to the office of Superintendent of stationery in 1845.—(*Englishman*, Sept. 6, 1845.)

SIR HENRY (AFTERWARDS VISCOUNT) HARDINGE.

(FROM 1844—1848.)

The erection of his statue was due to the efforts of the late lamented Babu Ram Gopal Ghose, and the Rev. K. M. Banerji. (Vide p 2-4 of vol. I, of this book.)

EARL (AFTERWARDS MARQUIS) OF DALHOUSIE.

(FROM 1848—1856.)

A SHORT SKETCH OF HIS LIFE.

James Andrew Brown-Ramsay was third son of the ninth Earl of Dalhousie. He was born in 1812 in Dalhousie Castle, and died on the 19th of December, 1860, at the age of 49. In his obituary notice in the *Friend of India* of January 31, 1861, occurs the following passage:—

“His habit was to rise about 6; the morning was usually devoted to reading all the Anglo-Indian newspapers, and the perusal of official documents. At half-past 9, he sat down at his writing and continued steadily at his work till half-past 5. At 1 P. M., he took some luncheon, but did not rise from his desk. He was very methodical, no paper or letter was ever out of place, he never seemed in a hurry and was never bored by any interruption. In the evening after dinner he read the Home papers, a Review, or the last new novel. His temper was naturally quick and hasty, and impatient under provocation.

During his Indian career he paid off the heavy mortgage which rested on the Colstoun Estate"—(*F. I. Jany*, 31, 1861.)

MR. F. F. COURTENAY, BARRISTER-AT-LAW, PRIVATE
SECRETARY TO EARL OF DALHOUSIE.

Having inadvertently made use of the expression "Good God," the Rev. Mr. Quartley, Chaplain of Simla wrote a letter to the Private Secretary pointing out the profanity of the language used by him and demanded an apology. Mr. Courtenay considered this request on the part of the Reverend gentleman "an unwarrantable impertinence."

He was a short man with long hair, "short-sighted," but very long headed. He went up to Trinity in 1837, and was a member of that "noble society for the suppression of cruelty to Under-Graduates."

LORD DALHOUSIE.

Was strongly opposed to the maintenance of the cumbersome machinery of Revenue Boards which, he thought, impeded the despatch of business. He abolished most of the Boards which had before existed. The only Boards which escaped the destroying hand of Lord Dalhousie were those of Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Madras.—(*H. P. March*, 7, 1881.)

DEATH OF LADY DALHOUSIE.

We read the following in the *Friend of India* of February, 14, 1861:—

"In those days the only telegraph to Calcutta was from Khedgeri. The Captain of the Steamer was strictly enjoined to conceal the sad tidings for some hours after his arrival, that the stricken husband might learn the fact first from his letters. Instead of this, when the steamer anchored at Kedgeri for the night, the news was telegraphed especially to Calcutta and was issued by the newspaper offices as an "extra." Lord Dalhousie was driving on the Course, and was unusually happy in anticipation of his letters, at the very time that the death of his wife was the subject of conversation in every carriage that passed him. On returning from his drive and dressing for dinner his Private Secretary with

a trembling heart ventured to tell him. The cry that followed was heard throughout Government House, and for two days he saw no one. On the third, his order was—send me Work—Work—Work.” —(*F. I.* Feb. 14, 1861.)

INDIAN LAW COMMISSION REVIVED BY LORD DALHOUSIE.

In the *Calcutta Gazette* of September 1848, Lord Dalhousie caused a notification to appear reviving the Law Commission. Mr. Bethune and Mr. Millet, Members of the Council of India were appointed Law Commissioners, and Mr. John Peter Grant was its Secretary.—(*F. I.* Sept. 7, 1848.)

THE ORIGIN OF THE BLACK ACT AND LORD DALHOUSIE.

In the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 1st week of November, 1849, appeared the draft Act which brought British-born subjects under the criminal jurisdiction of the established courts of the country. The *Friend of India* in an article, dated the 8th Nov. 1849, thus wrote in support of it:—

The Act repeals Sec., 105, cap. 155, of the 53rd of George III, and empowers Magistrates to inflict a fine on any European offender to the extent of Rs. 500, and in case of non-payment, to commit him to some place of confinement for a period not exceeding 2 months. By the Act of 1836, British subjects residing in the territories under the Government of East India Company were made subject to the jurisdiction of the Company's Civil Courts, excepting those of Munsiffs. By Act III of 1836, they were made subject to these Courts and to the Revenue Courts in all matters connected with arrears and exactions of rent.

By Act VI of 1843, they were made subject, generally to Munsiffs' Courts in the Presidency of Bengal. Mr. Marshman assigns the act to a case in which a youth of Meerut altered a bill from Rs. 4 to 40. The boy named Foy being a British subject had to be tried by the Supreme Court of Calcutta, and host of Meerut officials were summoned to bear witness to this case.

LORD DALHOUSIE AND THE EX-RANI OF JHANSI.

The late lamented Mr. Robert Knight, wrote thus on this subject, like an angel from heaven, in the *Statesman* of Feb., 8, 1878:—

“In the height of the Mutiny, some one (we never knew who) sent us a copy of the memorial addressed by the ex-Rani of Jhansi, just before the outbreak, to the House of Lords. It was one of the most pathetic documents we ever read, and we do not think any one could have perused it without emotion. It was an exposition of the wrong done to the Princess and her family and little Court, by Lord Dalhousie’s declaration that the State had lapsed to the British Government, through her failure to bear a son to her deceased husband. We had none but treaty rights towards the State, while we arbitrarily assumed *first* that we were the Paramount Power, although we professed to regard the old Mogul, then under our protection, at Delhi, as such; and secondly, that we had a right to declare ourselves the heirs to every kingdom, principality, chiefship, and even private landed estate in the country, whenever the owner died without leaving a son to succeed him. We took advantage of the peculiarity of Hindoo law, that requires the widow under such circumstances to adopt a successor, to exclude altogether the brothers, nephews, cousins, and all collateral heirs. We took advantage of this peculiarity we say, of the Hindoo law of inheritance, to declare that *there were no heirs at all*; and in the next place that *we* were the heirs, and that the estate lapsed to ourselves, and became our property. It would have been monstrous to have set up such a claim, even on behalf of the old Mogul Emperor; while to assert it ourselves, was we do verily believe, the most oppressive proceeding any modern civilised Government was ever guilty of, and we were doing it systematically. Throughout the Deccan, we were appropriating all the private landed estates of the country to ourselves in the same way, and upon the same pretext, simply giving life-pensions of a smaller or large amount, to the surviving members of the family, or collateral heirs as they are called. We had tortured the ancient practice—of notifying the “adoption” to the Mogul, and accompanying it with a “*nuzzur*”,—into a right of refusing to sanction the custom, that we might ourselves seize the property. Looking back upon it now after twenty years, it seems almost incredible that such a course could ever have been entered upon and still more incredible, that it should ever have found defenders. It elicited indignant remonstrances from every Anglo-Indian statesman of weight, both at home and in this country, while it filled every part of India with dismay. But Lord Dalhousie’s ascendancy was absolute. The Court of Directors had ceased to remonstrate with him, and had at last become his accomplices, while both Houses of Parliament resolutely shut their eyes, to what “the great Proconsul” was doing, and threw into the wastepaper basket, every memorial from his victims. Amongst them was the Ranee of Jhansi, the pathos of whose memorial to the House of Lords, we well remember moved us deeply. There were circumstances connected with the seizure of the *Raj*, that were nearly incredible. Thus, not only the women’s clothes and jewels, but the very toys

of the children about the Court, were seized as belonging to the British Government, and put up to auction. This was but two or three years before the Mutiny. The people at last rose against us. The Ranee joined the revolt, massacred the 50 or 60 Europeans at Jhansi, at the time, and put herself at the head of the Mutiny; and finally fell, lance in hand against us, before Gwalior. She and Tantia Topce were the only two leaders that the Rebellion produced, and it is impossible not to pity her deeply. The baseness of some of these acts of spoliation was very deep, and we speak moderately when we say, that there has been nothing like them—take them for all in all, and with their attendant circumstances—in the history of modern civilised countries, except only perhaps Bonaparte's kidnapping the unfortunate King of Spain, and putting his own brother Joseph on the throne in his place. The Ranee's memorial dwelt at length upon the good government of the little State under the rule of her family, and we very well remember the testimony born by our own officers, to the fact. They declared Jhansi to be a model for the excellence of its rule, and the flourishing condition of its people. Twenty years of British rule succeeded during which we have introduced institutions amongst the people which we are told have so destroyed all prosperity amongst them, that Jhansi is lapsing into kaus grass, or jungle. Such at least was the report of the Board of Revenue, three or four years ago.

ACTIONS AT LAW AGAINST OFFICERS OF GOVERNMENT.

From—The Secretary of the Government of Bengal,

To—The Superintendent of Police, L. P.,

Dated Fort William, 12th April, 1848.

(1) “I am directed by the Right Hon’ble the Governor-General to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 583 of the 17th ultimo, in which you draw His Lordship’s attention to the position in which Magistrates and other officers of Government are placed, when actions are brought against them in the Courts of Law for acts done in the discharge of their official duties in consequence of the system at present pursued of leaving them to defend themselves at their own expense in every case, and only reimbursing them after the conclusion of the trial, if from the facts then developed, it

should appear that they have conducted themselves legally and properly in the matters which occasioned the action.

(2) After carefully considering the subject, His Lordship has come to the conclusion, that it will be right that officers of the Government so situated should be relieved from the necessity, which must often press heavily upon their means, of advancing the funds required for defending themselves against actions which may often be promoted by malice or litigiousness.

(3) With this view, His Lordship has determined, as the course to be pursued in such cases in future, that on the institution of any action against an officer of the Government for acts done in the discharge of his public duty, he should communicate the fact through the usual official channel, reporting all the circumstances which may be necessary to enable the Government to arrive at a decision on the real merits of the case. If, on the full examination into the case, and on a fair and reasonable interpretation of the proceedings, the officer shall appear to have acted rightly, he will be directed to take the necessary steps to defend himself, the Government advancing the funds necessary for that purpose, to be refunded after the issue of the action is known, in case the circumstances then brought to light should prove the officer to have acted improperly. If, on the other hand, upon examination of his case by the Government his conduct shall appear to have been clearly wrong, he will be informed that the Government will not interfere and that he must defend himself at his own charge.

(4) Under such a rule as this, His Lordship conceives that all public officers will not be led to feel that they can fall back on the Government for defence in every case, whether their conduct have been right or wrong. They will be sensible enough to feel that they can look for assistance only when they may appear to have entirely deserved it, and

ACTIONS AT LAW AGAINST OFFICERS OF GOVT.

therefore their sense of responsibility will remain as keen as heretofore.

(5) Regarding Mr. Trotter's case, which gave rise to your communication, His Lordship has been informed that the action against that officer has been nonsuited."

It will be apparent from the above, that it was Mr. Trotter's case, the facts of which we do not know, led to the promulgation of this famous order. We have not materials enough to show how far this order was strictly carried out in every case in which a native was involved. But we have reasons to suspect that in the majority of these cases, the rule was more honoured in the breach than in the observance thereof. Take for instance the state prosecutions under Act XXX of 1850. The Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Bannerji was tried in 1873 under this Act, and the late lamented Hon'ble Kristo Das Pal, in a series of very able articles written on that subject in the issues of the *Hindu Patriot* of October 13th, and November 17th of 1873, thus contrasted the policy of Government in regard to his case with the course of action followed in other cases in which European Civilians were involved:—

"In the celebrated Police Commission of Calcutta, presided over by Mr. Colvin, which resulted in the removal of Major Birch, no public prosecutor was appointed. In the case of the late Babu Kishorey Chand Mitter the same course was followed. In Mr. Humphrey's case the investigation was similarly left entirely in the hands of the Commission. In that case the Commissioners had acquitted him, but the Government was of opinion that their judgment was contrary to evidence, and accordingly reversed their decision, and put the accused officer out of employ. The charges against Messrs. Hogg and Rivett-Carnac were disposed of departmentally."

In the case of Babu Surendra Nath Bannerji, Mr. O'Kinealy was appointed prosecutor in a most extraordinary fashion. "Mr. Bruce Lane," wrote Babu Kristo Das Pal, "who was acting as Legal Remembrancer in addition to his duties as Secretary to the Board of Revenue was" suddenly "relieved" of his charge, and Mr. O'Kinealy was appointed

in his place, with a view to prosecute Babu Surendra Nath Bannerji. Then again he applied for his trial at Calcutta, but his application was not granted. He wanted the services of the Advocate-General, or the Standing Counsel, but the Government intimated that neither of them was "available."

EARL CANNING.

(FROM 1856—1862.)

He sanctioned a proposal for the appointment of a curator of the native press, not with the view of establishing a censorship over it, but with the object of ascertaining native opinion. But financial difficulties prevented the carrying out of the scheme.

SOME OF HIS REMINISCENCES.

He allowed Sir Bartle Frere to snub Sir John Peter Grant for his noble policy for the emancipation of the Indigo serfs of Bengal. He proposed the Criminal Contracts Bill to please the Indigo and Tea Planters in defiance of the recognized principles of criminal jurisprudence. He sold the waste lands of Assam for a song to conciliate the planters, and quenched the little spark of freedom in the Legislative Council by "abolishing the Judges."—(*H. P.* April 17, 1876.)

BISHOP COTTON AND LORD CANNING.

"Dr. Smith reviewed in the *Friend of India* the Biography of Bishop Cotton by his widow. He extracted part of a letter, from the Bishop to the late Lord Canning on the subject of his marching on Sunday. It is as follows:—
"I am not given to extreme Sabbatical views. But believing that the institution of a day of rest is among the greatest blessings which God has given us, and is one of the chief outward signs of our national Christianity, I deeply regret this continual

disregard of it by the person bearing chief authority of the country, and whom on many grounds I respect and esteem." The proud Viceroy "was nettled for the moment," but replied with his usual courtesy showing that out of twenty-two Sundays he had marched only on seven, and that with a camp of 17,000 men it is sometimes impossible to halt on Sunday on account of provision."—(H. P. March 10, 1871.)

LORD CANNING'S REPUDIATION OF THE ANNEXATION POLICY OF LORD DALHOUSIE.

The late lamented Mr. Robert Knight in an article under the heading "Party Spirit and Indian progress," published in the *London Statesman* of June, 1880, thus wrote on the subject:—

"Lord Canning made a still greater advance in repudiating Lord Dalhousie's doctrines as to the impotence and uselessness to the Empire of the Native States, in his despatch of the 30th of April, 1860, recommending that for the future there should be no interference with succession by adoption in Hindoo Principalities. Not only did he bear testimony to the strength that our Government had derived from the allied and protected States during the rebellion—when, as he said, these patches of Native Government served as break-waters to the storm which would otherwise have swept over us in one great wave, but he implicitly confessed that the destructive process freely employed by Lord Dalhousie, was historically and legally indefensible." (Vide p. 45-46 of the *London Statesman* of June, 1880.)

LORD CANNING AND BARU HURISH CHUNDER MUKHERJI, EDITOR OF THE *HINDU PATRIOT*.

During the hurricane of the Sepoy Mutiny in 1857, Lord Canning was bitterly assailed and vilified on all sides by the rabid Anglo-Indian Editors of his time for his general conciliatory policy in suppressing it. Among these hostile Anglo-Indian Editors, stood foremost Dr. George Buist of the *Bombay Gazette*, and Sir Walter Brett of the *Englishman*. Dr. Buist's cry was "blood for blood," and hence he was nicknamed the "Bloody Buist." The only journal in India which supported his policy was the *Hindu Patriot*, then ably edited by the immortal

Hurish Chunder Mukherji. Week after week, month after month, the Brahmin journalist of Bhowanipore upheld the policy of His Lordship, in a series of very ably written articles which elicited the admiration of even the *London Times*. It is said that the "Thunderer" of London paid a high eulogium to Babu Hurish Chunder Mukherji. Lord Canning used to send home, every week, seven or eight copies of the *Hindu Patriot* to be read by the Ministry, as a vindication of his general policy. Every Monday morning, he stood anxious for the receipt of the *Hindu Patriot*, and used to send special messengers for it. It is greatly to be regretted that no other authentic materials are now to be had, as to how Lord Canning used to appreciate the worth of immortal Hurish Chunder Mukherji in this crisis.

LORD CANNING AND THE OTHER EDUCATED NATIVES.

Forsaken, vilified, and pestèred on all sides by the rabid Anglo-Indian community and the Press, Lord Canning used to consult with the late lamented Babu Ram Gopal Ghose, the Venerable Pundit Ishur Chunder Vidyasagar and others. The educated natives of Calcutta assured him of the perfect loyalty of Bengal. The late lamented Babu Ishur Chunder Ghosal, the well-known Deputy-Magistrate patrolled in the River Bhagiruthi in a boat to watch the movements of the mutineers. To speak the truth in the matter, the moral and material support given by the educated and other loyal natives of Bengal especially and of India in general, to Lord Canning in this hideous crisis was of immense value to His Lordship in suppressing the rebellion. Those who have any doubt on the subject should read the famous pamphlet, which the late lamented Hon'ble Kristo Das Pal wrote in 1869, called the "Statements of Indian Fidelity." (Vide our biography of the Hon'ble K. D. Pal, p. 10-11.)

LORD CANNING'S LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

"But a personal squabble occurred between Lord Canning and Sir Barnes Peacock, the then Vice-President of the Legislative Council. Lord Canning had given away Jaigirs as rewards to loyal princes and subjects in recognition of their meritorious services during the Sepoy Mutiny; Sir Barnes Peacock questioned the right of the Governor-General to alienate any portion of the territory of the Crown without the sanction of Parliament. Then Sir Bartle Frere as representative of the Government submitted certain proposals for taxation; Sir Barnes Peacock very properly refused to entertain those proposals without the fullest information before the Council; he also questioned the competency of the Secretary of State to make the Mysore Grant. These acts of independence on the part of the Judges of the Supreme Court in the Legislative Chamber alarmed the Executive Government, and Lord Canning proposed to abolish them. In lieu of the Judges Lord Canning proposed to give local Councils to the local Governments, and to admit non-official members into both local and imperial Councils. The public seemed to be satisfied; they took it to be an indication of liberal policy in matters of legislation; they regarded it as the first step in advance. But the experience of the last sixteen years shews that the local Councils and the admission of non-official members have been no compensation for the loss of the Judges from the Legislative Council." (*H. P.* Feb. 12, 1877.)

LORD CANNING.

It was Lord Canning who, moved by the Rev. Mr. Long, recognized the usefulness of the vernacular press by ordering translations from the vernacular papers." (*H. P.* Aug. 20 1877.)

NATIVE PUBLIC MEETING IN CALCUTTA IN HONOR OF
LORD CANNING.

The first public meeting held in India in honor of the retiring Viceroy was due to the efforts of the members of the British Indian Association headed by Babu (afterwards Rajah) Roma Nath Tagore) and the late Babu Ram Gopal Ghose. It was held in the Town Hall, on the 25th February, 1862, under the presidency of the Hon'ble Mr. David Cowie, the then Sheriff of Calcutta. The British Indian Association asked the

Chamber of Commerce and other European public bodies to join in the movement, but they refused to do so.

Babu Ram Gopal Ghose, the orator and patriot of Bengal moved the first Resolution :—

“That this meeting desires to record its high sense of eminent public services of the Right Hon'ble the Earl Canning during his administration of British India, marked as his career has been by consummate ability and rare judgment, by unswerving rectitude of purpose, and by a large, liberal, and enlightened spirit of justice and mercy, which have secured for him the gratitude of the teeming millions of this country.”

It was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

Babu Roma Nath Tagore then moved the adoption of the address which was read by Mr. John Cochrane, Barrister-at-Law. The Chairman then suggested that the address should be presented on behalf of the “native inhabitants of India,” and not in the name of the general inhabitants, including the Anglo-Indians who were opposed to showing honor to Lord Canning. Mr. Walter Brett, Editor of the *Englishman* took the same view and made a speech in support of it. (Vide p. 28-29 of this volume.)

Messrs. Hume, Cochrane, and Piffard objected to the amendment, which not being seconded by any one was lost. The address was presented to Lord Canning in the name of the general “inhabitants of India.” (*Hurkura*, Feb. 25, 1862.)

THE EUROPEAN DEMONSTRATION.

Shamed by this grand demonstration of the educated Natives of Calcutta, the Europeans held a public meeting in His honour, on the 7th of March of that year, and presented an address to the retiring Viceroy. Mr. T. T. Peterson, Barrister-at-Law, moved the adoption of the address, Mr. D. Wilson seconding it.

The second Resolution “expressing high sense of the public services by Lord Canning,” was moved by Mr. Cowie,

the Sheriff, and seconded by Mr. Walter Brett, editor of the *Englishman*.

EARL OF ELGIN.

(FROM 1862—1864.)

LORD ELGIN AND THE LABOUR CONTRACTS BILL.

In 1868 the Labour Contracts Bill, passed by the Bengal Legislative Council in the very first year of Sir William Grey's administration was vetoed by Lord Elgin. Lord Northbrook in 1872 similarly vetoed Sir George Cambell's Mufusil Municipal Bill.—(*H. P.* Feb., 10, 1873.)

LORD ELGIN AND THE CASE OF JOHN RUDD.

In our book called "A Record of Criminal cases between Europeans and Natives for the last sixty years," published in 1893, and so much disliked by Sir Charles Elliott, we published an account of this case as told by the late Hon'ble Kristo Das Pal in the *Hindu Patriot* of 12th July, 1880. (Vide the above work p. 102—103). The Editor made certain mistakes which we rectify below by publishing a full account of this case. It was Lord Elgin who refused to grant pardon to John Rudd, as requested by some Anglo-Indians headed by Mr. Longueville Clarke, Barrister-at-Law.

HIS CASE.

"He was a private of H. M's 92nd Regiment. Mr. Jellicoe left H. M's 81st Regiment, and Mr. Potts also left the former Regiment in which they were officers with the intention of proceeding to New Zealand. The former purchased the discharge of John Rudd who acted as servant. They were living near Rawalpindi. On the 29th November, 1861, Rudd was sent by his master to shoot peacocks and purchase a sheep from a native named Fazil. Rudd insisted on having a sheep which the native declared to be with young, and Fazil complained to Rudd's master.

REMINISCENCES AND ANECDOTES.

Mr. Rudd thereupon threw stones at him, then fired a gun in the air, and then taking another gun took aim at him and shot him dead. He was tried at the Calcutta Supreme Court presided over by Sir Charles Jackson, and was sentenced to be hanged. Except an Irish soldier who was hanged in 1858 for shooting a comrade, this will be the first instance of an Englishman being executed in Calcutta. Many years ago an Armenian was hanged for the notorious Ice-house murder. (F. I. June 12. 1862.)

SUPREME COURT.

JUNE, 9. 1862.

(Before Sir Charles Jackson. Kt.)

THE QUEEN VS. JOHN RUDD.

The prisoner, an Englishman between 25 and 30 years of age, was committed by Henry Arthur Dayer Esq., Assistant Commissioner of Rawalpindi for the wilful murder of a native named Fazil.

The Advocate-General and Mr. Graham appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Clarke for the defence.

Gour Khan stated in his evidence that he was a Zemindar of Khurloot. He knew the deceased, and the circumstances under which he died. When he was standing near the house of Mr. Jellicoe when he saw the prisoner fire with a double barrelled gun in the air. Fazil made a complaint to Mr. Jellicoe that the prisoner wanted to take away a sheep by force. The prisoner did take the sheep. Fazil again complained to the shaheb when the prisoner struck him; he kicked him on the back. Fazil then ran away, and while he was running, the prisoner went in and brought out another gun and aiming at the deceased shot him. Fazil fell. He was conveyed to the hospital and died next day about sunset. Mr. William Morgan, Commandant of the 2nd N. I. deposed that he took the deposition of the dying man in a perfectly sensible state: George Kingsmill, the Surgeon deposed that the ball entered right in the middle of the back, and that the 8th vertebrae was broken. George Frederick Jellicoe deposed that he saw that the prisoner fire both barrels, and that Rudd came and told him "wretched" His Lordship then summed up the case, and the jury having brought in a verdict of guilty, he was ordered to be hanged. (Hark. June 12. 1862.)

SIR (AFTERWARDS LORD) JOHN LAWRENCE.

FROM 1864—1869.

LORD LAWRENCE AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A
GOVERNMENT ORGAN IN THE PRESS.

The *Times of India* related in 1876, the following story about the move made in Lord Lawrence's time about the establishment of a Government organ in the Press:—

"It was during the Viceroyalty of Sir John Lawrence that the Government of India, after a good deal of discussion, decided upon having an official organ. With this view, a "Star Chamber" committee was assembled to devise a plan by which the objects of the Government could best be attained; or, to use more accurate terms, a number of gentlemen were "invited to meet and discuss a certain project which would be laid before them." The gentlemen composing this committee, to the best of our recollection, were Mr. R. Temple, or Mr. J. Strachey, the Hon'ble Ashley Eden, Mr. Healey—Dr. Hunter is quite able to correct us if our memory plays us false—and one gentleman of the Press. That gentleman was not, however, the youngest member of the Fourth Estate. He was the Nestor of Indian journalists,—Mr. John O'Brien Saunders of the *Calcutta Englishman*. At the first meeting of the committee, all went merrily as a marriage bell; indeed, so merrily that everything was thought to be satisfactorily arranged and the "Organ" a *fait accompli*. Things having progressed thus far, at the second, or it may have been the third, meeting of the committee, the gentleman of the Press, after producing a variety of statistics setting forth the cost of bringing out the proposed journal, politely enquired what "subsidy" the Government proposed to contribute as a compensation to the proprietor for the loss of his independence. The question was listened to by the official gentlemen present with profound attention, but at the same time with blank astonishment. The answer to it, however, was clear and decisive.—"The Government of India had never, for one moment, contemplated the idea of giving any subsidy whatever!" Upon hearing this, the Nestor of Indian journalists rose from his chair, and, with a bow which has since become historical, gracefully retired from the "Star Chamber," leaving the official members of the committee gazing with wonder and amazement at the empty chair which he had just vacated."

HIS OTHER ACTS.

He vetoed the Assam Cooly Bill. He levied £52,500 from the people of the Punjab after the Mutiny to make good the loss accruing to individuals from riot or pillage. The Supreme Government checked Mr. Edmonstone when he proceeded to raise similiar levy in the N.-W. Provinces. In Cawnpore trifling sums were raised by way of compensation not to private individuals whose property was destroyed, but for the re-erection of Government buildings.—(F. I. June 6, 1861.)

LORD LAWRENCE AND BABU KESHUB CHUNDER SEN.

Lord Lawrence was a man of catholic principles, and as such respected the religious feelings of others. He entertained a very high respect for the late lamented Babu Keshub Chunder Sen, and was so much fascinated by his deep religious enthusiasm and marvellous power of oratory, that he attended several times his public lectures at the Town Hall and went to his house. It was through his recommendation, backed by that of Miss Mary Carpenter, Babu Soshi Podo Banerji, a Brahma of Baranagur, got an Inspectorship in the Postal Department of our native district of Nuddea.

SIR JOHN LAWRENCE AND THE CURBING OF THE
INDEPENDENCE OF THE SUPREME
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A writer in the *Calcutta Review* in an article on the Legislative Council thus wrote in 1872:—

“Under Sir John Lawrence and Mr. Maine there was at first nothing to complain of. The members expressed their opinions freely and were listened to with respect, until the question of the Punjab Tenant Right arose to bring division into their meetings. Sir W. Mansfield succeeded, in 1868, in postponing the passing of the bill until further information had been obtained. This hostile action of the Council against the executive, Sir John Lawrence appears to have looked on almost in the light of a mutiny. Orders were issued forbidding any official to correspond demi-officially with

the members of the Council ; it was therefore made impossible for them to gain the further information required and when the Council again met at Simla, the Government was of course in possession of a majority. The attempt to stifle free discussion was continued with even greater success when Lord Mayo and Mr. Stephen replaced Sir John Lawrence and Mr. Maine."—(*The Indian Observer* July 27, 1878.)

LORD LAWRENCE AND THE STATE BALLS.

Lord Lawrence excluded Native gentlemen from the balls held at Government House, and the London Press, notably the *Westminster Review*, took up the matter in such right earnest that his Lordship, it is believed under the instructions from the Secretary of State, immediately corrected his mistake. It was during Lord Dalhousie's time, it is said, the natives were not invited to the Government Levee. The late Rev. K. M. Banerji, on behalf of the educated natives, represented the matter to F. F. Courtenay Esq., Barrister-at-Law, Private Secretary to Lord Dalhousie, who in reply intimated to Dr. Banerji, that the Government never intended to exclude the natives from these Levees. The Government letter to Dr. Banerji appeared in the *Friend of India* of Nov. 11, 1848.

EARL OF MAYO.

(FROM 1869—1872.)

Lord Mayo the magnificent considered the Penal Code insufficient to punish the seditious writings of the vernacular press, and so he passed Mr. Fitzjames Stephen's Seditious Words Bill. (*H. P.* June 21, 1875.)

AN ANECDOTE.

"Under Lord Mayo's encouragement some Native Chiefs took notes in dancing. For instance we (the late Hon'ble K. D. Pal,) saw the Maharajahs of Jeypur and Vizianagram perform the quadrille in Government House in company of Lady Mayo and Mrs. Norman."

EARL OF NORTHBROOK.

(FROM 1872—1876.)

He wrote a scathing Resolution in 1872, censuring Captain Faber, R. E., Mr. Campbell, Mr. Armstrong, Colonel Pollard, and Lieutenant-Colonel Allen for the scandalous abuse of money in constructing the Saugor Barracks.

LORD NORTHBROOK'S SENSE OF JUSTICE.

In the famous case of Thakur Kapilanath Deo *vs.* the Government, Lord Northbrook recorded a Resolution, dated the 14th May, 1873, No. 832, fully agreeing with the opinion expressed by the Hon'ble Justice Macpherson as to the illegality of the proceedings of the Deputy-Commissioner of Hazaribagh. This suit was instituted by the plaintiff in *forma pauperis* through his mother and guardian for the recovery of an estate in Chota Nagpore, valued at Rs. 1,42,268-8. The facts of this case were stated in the *Bengal Law Reports* for the month of March, 1873. Lord Northbrook concluded the Resolution thus:—

“In many parts of India the union of judicial with executive functions in one chief officer of a district is still, and may long be, inevitable; and His Excellency in Council trusts that all officers, who exercise this double power realize the responsibility which it throws upon them for scrupulous observance of equity in all suits to which the Government, which they serve, is a party. To lean towards technical plea in favour of Government, or towards technical obstacles against a suit which the Government defends, whenever such pleas or obstacles merely hinder a decision on the merits—to strain laws for the advantage of Government—all these things would be exactly contrary to the rule of judicial conduct which in such cases the Government desires to impose. And His Excellency in Council expects all officers to understand, that the interests of Government are most effectually promoted by sedulously upholding this high standard of entire impartiality.”—
(*The Indian Observer*, May 31, 1873.)

LORD NORTHBROOK.

The late Mr. Robert Knight wrote the following in the *Statesman* of January 23, of 1887, on the attitude of His Lordship towards the press.

“We have observed that one or two of our contemporaries, seem to think that the new rule of Lord Northbrook forbidding any Government servant to edit a newspaper, is a wholesome one, conducive to the discipline of the service, and to the independence of the Press; but the writers plainly do not know what the previous orders were upon the subject, any more that Lord Northbrook knew what they were, when having taken offence at certain articles that appeared in the *Indian Economist* on the famine, and on Baroda affairs, he assumed a power of ordering its editor to withdraw from all connection with the Press whatever. From 1841 down to 1875, the servants of Government were at liberty to own, or edit, any newspaper in the country. In 1864, Sir Charles Wood, expressed an opinion, however, in the Revd. Mr. Gell’s case, that no officer in Government employ, ought to be permitted to edit a newspaper in India, without the express sanction of the Government. He issued no “order” however on the subject, and the Notification of 28th June, 1841 continued to rule the matter, down to July 1875, when Lord Northbrook after a correspondence with the Home Government, that has never seen the light, published the following order :

“Questions having recently arisen as to the extent to which officers in the service of Government are permitted to connect themselves with the Press, the Governor-General in Council thinks it desirable that the existing orders on the subject should be clearly understood.

I.—No officer in the service of Government is permitted without the previous sanction in writing of the Government under which he immediately serves to become the proprietor, either in whole or in part, of any newspaper or periodical publication, or to edit or manage any such newspaper or publication. Such sanction will only be given in the case of newspapers or publications, mainly

devoted to the discussion of topics not of a political character, such as instance as art, science, or literature. The sanction will be liable to be withdrawn, at the discretion of the Government.

III.—The Government of India will decide, in case of doubt whether any engagements of officers with the Press, are consistent with the discharge of their duties to the Government.

IV. Nothing in this Resolution is intended to relax the provisions of any regulations on this subject which now apply to the Army.

Now this order was the result, we say, of a long and angry correspondence that had taken place concerning the *Indian Economist*, in which its editor (Mr. Robert Knight), had pointed out that both he, and every other official, were entitled to own, or edit, whatever papers they pleased.”

ANOTHER ACT OF LORD NORTHBROOK.

In the *Statesman* of November 23rd, 1876, the late lamented Mr. Robert Knight wrote the following:—

“There is again the question of honors. There have been men in the Indian Press whose services to the country have been conspicuous, but the idea of honouring them for those services, seems never to enter the official mind. Three years ago, when Dr. Smith of the *Friend of India* was about to retire from the country, Sir George Campbell wished to pay him the compliment of a seat in the local Council for a month or two. Every one remembers how offensively Lord Northbrook vetoed the nomination, and for no other reason than that Dr. Smith had opposed his famine policy.

EARL OF LYTTON.

(FROM 1876—1880.)

We take the following from the *Hindoo Patriot* of 1876:—
 “The *Englishman* gives a good story of Lord Lytton’s firmness and independence of his councillors. It is stated that the Government of the North-Western Provinces had backed a memorial of the Roman Catholic inhabitants of Allahabad for a grant of Rs. 12,000 for the completion of the Roman Catholic Cathedral at the station

that Sir John Strachey has asked for a contribution from the imperial funds, but if the Government of India would not give it, he requested he might be permitted to make the appropriation from the provincial fund; that the Government of India refused the grant from the imperial fund, but did not say any thing regarding the proposed appropriation from the provincial fund. Sir John Strachey accordingly gave the grant from the provincial fund, and reported the matter to the Government of India. The *Englishman* then goes on:—

“The Government in its Home and Public Works Departments has been terribly exercised in mind by this bestowal of funds to help the cause of Rome. Mr. E. C. Bayley, a good and gentle Christian, warms into a theologian when he has to deal with Papists, and there are those in high office about him, who hold his opinions regarding the Beast and the Scarlet Lady. Consternation fell upon these liberal minded officials when they learnt that a Protestant Lieutenant-Government in India had actually given Rs. 12,000 out of Provincial funds to assist the completion of a Roman Catholic Cathedral. It was determined at once to draft a letter recalling His Honor to a sense of the duties he owed to the Reformation, and to the vows which his god-fathers and god-mothers took for him at his baptism. This draft letter declared the grant contrary to departmental rules and in opposition to the wishes and *policy* of the Government of India, and His Honor was rebuked in dignified language, more in anger perhaps than in sorrow. The letter was sent to press, and submitted to the Viceroy for formal approval. To the surprise of all concerned, it is said that His Excellency has, in a scathing minute, administered severe castigation to all concerned in drawing up this Protestant Manifesto. The story goes that he has refused to sanction its issue, and considers it incorrect, injudicious, and impertinent towards the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-West. The whole tone of it is condemned.

Consternation reigns amongst “the able administrators,” and each is asking the other “whose turn will it be next?” It is considered, in the highest circles of Olympus, preposterous that a Governor-General so new to the work as Lord Lytton, should take upon himself already to call into question the doings of his councillors, and in more than one household at Simla it is openly stated that the Church of England has received a Jesuitical stab. Private prayers have, it is said, been offered up, for the conversion of His Lordship to a more Protestant frame of mind, but the sad reflection remains on the official mind that Lord Lytton, while

listening to the advice of his "able administrators," intends to think and act for himself."

This reminds us of an anecdote connected with Lord Dalhousie. Within a fortnight of his arrival here the papers relating to a new Breach of Trust Bill suggested by Sir Thomas Turton's case had been laid before him. This Bill had been prepared on the suggestion of the Judges of the Supreme Court, and settled by the Law Member of the Council. Its distinguishing feature was its *ex post facto* character. All the high legal authorities in the capital had supported it, but the new Governor-General was shocked at the idea that a criminal law should have retrospective effect, and wrote a "scathing" minute on the subject. Venerable Judges and lawyers bowed down their heads before this youthful but determined Governor."

LORD LYTTON AND SIR JOHN STRACHEY'S TABLET.

We take the following for the *Hindoo Patriot* of 1881:—
"Thanks to the grateful feeling of Lord Lytton, Sir John Strachey has not gone without monumental alabaster. One redeeming feature in the Indian career of Sir John, as we remarked in our review of it, was the interest he took in the preservation of the ancient monuments of India. And in commemoration of his services in this direction Lord Lytton placed a tablet in Agra with the following inscription thereon :"

"In grateful commemoration of services rendered to posterity by the Hon'ble Sir John Strachey G. C. S. I., to whom, not forgetting the enlightened sympathy and timely care of others, India is mainly indebted for the rescued and preserved beauty of the Taj Mehal and other famous monuments of the ancient art and history of these provinces formerly administered by him, this tablet

is placed by order of his friend, the Earl of Lytton, Viceroy and Governor-General of India, A. D. 1880."

This is a new mode of testimonializing. The people have not voted the testimonial, but the Viceroy did it, not from his private fund, but from the public exchequer. There was we hear some struggle between the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces and the late Viceroy as to the place where the tablet was to be put up. Lord Lytton wanted to place it on the Taj at Agra, but Sir George Couper justly held that it would be simply a desecration of that world-renowned monument. At last a compromise was made, and the tablet was placed in the Agra Fort."

LORD LYTTON.

The Release of Nobin of Tarakeshur fame.

The *Hindoo Patriot* of 1876 contains the following :—

"The Bengalis working at Simla addressed a memorial to His Excellency the Viceroy praying for the release of Nobin of Tarakeshur fame. We have received a copy of the memorial, which is dated the 28th August last. The Home Secretary has returned the following reply :

Office memo.

To Baboo Obhoy Churn Brahmo and others.—With reference to the Memorial from Baboo Obhoy Churn Brahmo and others, dated the 28th August last, the undersigned is directed to say that Nobin Chunder Bannerji has already been released.

T. J. C. FLOWDEN,

Offg. Under-Secy. to the Govt. of India,

Home Department.

Simla, the 16th October 1876.

We are told that the order for Nobin's release emanated from Lord Lytton. Mr. E. C. Bayley wrote a demi-offici all letter to Sir Richard Temple, who took the action, for which all Bengali is grateful to him."

The late lamented Rev. K. M. Bannerji, and the Hon'ble Kristo Das Pal did their best for the release of poor Nobin, who murdered his own wife, Alokashi seduced by Madhub Giri, the Mōhunt of Tarakeshur.

MARQUIS OF RIPON.

(FROM 1880—1884.)

MARQUIS OF RIPON, AND MR. MANO MOHUN GHOSE,
BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

Lord Ripon had a great respect for our worthy and patriotic townsman, Mr. Mano Mohun Ghose, Barrister-at-Law. It was at the suggestion of the Viceroy, as stated in the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, Mr. Ghose sketched the outlines of the famous Ilbert Bill. His paper was said to have been circulated among the civilians for opinion who expressed bitter resentment at his suggestions. Mr. Ghose was in frequent correspondence with this popular Viceroy of India.

EARL OF DUFFERIN, AND DR. SUMBHU CHUNDER MUKHERJI, THE LATE EDITOR OF *REIS AND RAYYET*.

(FROM 1884—1888.)

We relate the following account of an interview between the above renowned journalist and Lord Dufferin in the Government House at Calcutta, some time in 1889, we believe. Dr. Sumbhu Chunder himself was our own informant on this subject.

At the urgent and repeated request of the Viceroy, Dr. Sumbhu Chunder one day went to the Government House. He was received by the Viceroy with the utmost courtesy, and the Viceroy took his seat by the side of the distinguished journalist on a small sofa, so that the overflowing garment of the visitor fell on the body of the Viceroy. Lord Dufferin then showed him choicest articles col-

lected by him during his tour in Upper Burmah, and began to talk with him on various subjects. In the midst of his conversation, Sir Steuart Bayley, the then Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal came to the Viceroy for advice in an urgent political matter. The Viceroy therefore most politely requested Dr. Sumbhu Chunder Mukherji to excuse him for five or ten minutes to have a talk with the Lieutenant-Governor. The Doctor, with his usual politeness, begged of the Viceroy to take leave of him, assuring His Lordship at the same time, that he would call on him, on another occasion. But the Viceroy insisted on his remaining, and having kept him engaged in reading some valuable books or newspapers, saw Sir Steuart Bayley in another room, gave necessary orders in the matter, and came back to the journalist in all haste to resume conversation with him. Lord Dufferin was in private communication with the learned Doctor, and wrote several private letters to him. Sir Auckland Colvin, Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces was in similar correspondence with the learned Doctor.

REMINISCENCES OF INDIAN JOURNALISM.

CHAPTER IV.

In the first volume of this book, we devoted a separate chapter to this most interesting subject, containing 37 pages in all. For want of space and materials, it could not then be more amplified. We now supply the omission so far as it lies in our own humble power. It is greatly to be regretted that the history of Indian Journalism remains yet to be written. The late lamented Mr. Robert Knight had a mind to do so, and collected, we believe, materials for it, but unfortunately for this country, his grand idea was not carried out. The stray reminiscences collected in these volumes might form a nucleus to a precious history on this subject. With these prefatory remarks, we beg to introduce our readers to the subject.

AN ANGLO-INDIAN EDITOR IN 1794.

The following extract from the article of Mr. William Digby in the *Calcutta Review* will, we are sure, be read with interest by our readers :—

The history of the *Indian World*, a newspaper started in 1794, by an Irish-American named William Duane, showed the contempt with which newspaper editors were treated in those times. Mr. Duane had made all arrangements to sell his paper on January 1st, 1795; and though he was not assailing the Government at that period, opportunity was taken to show him how heavily the hand of the ruler could smite. On the 27th December, 1794, he was requested by the Private Secretary of Sir John Shore, Captain Collins, to call at Government House. Duane, conscious of no

particular offence, thought this was an invitation to breakfast at the Governor-General's table, given because he was about to leave the country, and was prompt in answering the summons. The following discussion ensued, at Captain Collin's meeting Mr. Duane in the room :—

Captain Collins :—I am glad you are so punctual, Mr. Duane.

Mr. Duane :—I generally am, Sir. I hope the Governor-General is well.

Captain Collins :—He is not to be seen and—

Mr. Duane :—I understood I was invited by him.

Captain Collins :—Yes, Sir, but I am directed by the Governor-General to inform you, that you are to consider yourself a State prisoner.

A number of soldiers, at a given signal, burst upon the scene and with drawn bayonets surrounded Mr. Duane, who saw through an open door the Governor-General and two members of the Supreme Council sitting on a sofa.

Mr. Duane :—I did not think, Sir John Shore, (Lord Teignmouth) or you, Sir (turning to Captain Collins), could be so base and treacherous as to proceed, or even to think, as you do.

Captain Collins :—Silence, Sir. (To the soldiers) : Drag him along.

Mr. Duane (to the soldier) :—Softly my friends, I shall go along with you. (To Collins) : What is to follow next, Collins, the bowstring or the scimitar ?

Captain Collins :—You are insolent, Sir. (To the soldiers) : Drag him along you pig-eating scoundrels.

Mr. Duane :—You are performing the part of Grand Vizier now my little gentleman, and those are your mutes. Calcutta is become Constantinople, and the Governor-General the Grand Turk.

Under strict guard, strongly armed, Duane was kept in Fort William for three days, and then taken on board an armed India man and conveyed to England, where he was set free without a single word of information and explanation. His property in India, of which he never received a pice, was worth about fifty thousand dollars. He afterwards went to Philadelphia, became Editor of *Aurora*, and made that paper intensely anti-British.

THE HISTORY OF CALCUTTA JOURNALS, AND PERIODICALS IN 1833.

We quote the following from the *Indian Observer* of July 19. 1873 :—

“From an article in the *Calcutta Quarterly Magazine* for 1833, written by the editor of the *John Bull*, who, we suppose

must have been Mr. J. H. Stocqueler, we take the following enumeration of journals, &c.:—

DAILY.

| | |
|--|------------------------------|
| <i>The Bengal Hurkura and Chronicle.</i> | <i>The Calcutta Courier.</i> |
| <i>The India Gazette.</i> | <i>The John Bull.</i> |

TRI-WEEKLY.

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| <i>The India Gazette.</i> | <i>The Bengal Chronicle.</i> |
| <i>The Indian Register.</i> | |

HALF-WEEKLY.

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <i>The Calcutta Courier.</i> | <i>The Calcutta Gazette.</i> |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|

WEEKLY.

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <i>The Literary Gazette.</i> | <i>The Philanthropist.</i> |
| <i>The Oriental Observer.</i> | <i>The Engineer.</i> |
| <i>The Bengal Herald.</i> | <i>The Gyananyashan.</i> |
| <i>The Reformer.</i> | <i>The Samachar Durpan.</i> |

MONTHLY.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <i>The Calcutta Monthly Journal.</i> | <i>The Christian Intelligencer.</i> |
| <i>The Bengal Sporting Magazine.</i> | <i>The Christian Observer.</i> |

ALTERNATE MONTHLY.

The East Indian United Service Journal.

QUARTERLY.

| | |
|--|------------------------------|
| <i>The Calcutta Magazine and Review.</i> | <i>The Bengal Army List.</i> |
|--|------------------------------|

ANNUAL.

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <i>The Bengal Annual.</i> | <i>The Register and Directory.</i> |
| <i>The Almanac.</i> | |

The oldest of these was the *India Gazette*, which appeared anterior to 1774, and seems at first to have been the official organ of Government. Originally a weekly paper, in 1822 it appeared twice, and in 1830 thrice a week, shortly after this date issuing a daily edition. Its politics, we learn, were “not merely strongly Whiggish,” but “approached to the Radical party,” and it was distinguished for its general “gentleman-likeism.”

THE *HURKURA*.

Next in age came the *Bengal Hurkura*, now, like the *India Gazette*, merged in the *Indian Daily News*, (since the year 1864.) A weekly journal in 1795 when it first appeared, in 1819 it blossomed into a "daily," and in 1824, on the death of its rival, the *Calcutta Journal*, the censorship of the press established by Lord Wellesley having been removed, "took up a lofty position as the advocate of free discussion, colonization, the education of the natives, and many other popular measures."

From the file of the old *Hurkura* of July 7, 1838, we take the following:—

"It was originally printed on small folio sheets, and published every Tuesday morning; subsequently the day of its publication was changed to Saturday.

The first number of the daily *Hurkura* (being likewise the first Daily Paper ever published in India) appeared on the 27th April 1819, printed, on a single quarto sheet. Very soon a second sheet was added to it; and on the 21st July, 1821, a third sheet was appended. On the 1st of February, 1824, it was printed on a royal folio sheet, and so continued till 1st January, 1834, when it assumed its present imperial size.

The interests and resources of several Calcutta journals have, from time to time, merged in the *Bengal Hurkura*, and it received an important accession on the 1st October, 1834, when the *India Gazette* and the *Bengal Courier* with all its stock, having been sold by public auction, was united to the *Hurkura Press*."

Like the *India Gazette*, the *Hurkura* was "thoroughly radical in its principles and adopted Bentham's motto of "the greatest happiness of the greatest number" as the basis of its operations.

The *Calcutta Courier* was, up to the year 1831, the *Calcutta Government Gazette*, and the verdict passed on it is, that "it lacks dignity;—where commerce, steam, or figures were concerned; the leaders of the *Courier* are able and accurate; but in treating political or local questions of moment, they are frequently charged with flippancy, dullness, or self-sufficiency."

The youngest of the daily papers in 1833 was the *John Bull*, established in 1821 as the *John Bull of the East*. Its conductors declared, that "it arose amid the storms and contentions in society which the *Calcutta Journal* was engendering; and it came professedly as an antidote to the poison disseminated by that print." This paper we are told "maintained its popularity by great attention to its intelligence department, and an adherence to Tory and Anglo-Indian conservancy (sic.) politics until 1829," when from various causes it rapidly declined in circulation, and must have expired, had it not passed in 1833 into the hands of the author of the article under notice. In the following year its title was changed to that of the *Englishman*. (Vide p. 155-56 of the first volume of this book.)

The *Bengal Chronicle* was but a reprint of the best articles in the *Hurkura*, with which paper the *Bengal Herald* was also closely connected. The *Indian Register* was "an injudicious attempt on the part of the East Indians to possess a journal exclusively their own." The *Philanthropist*, and *Enquirer* were religious papers, the editor, (the late lamented Rev. K. M. Banerji), of the latter, "in the fervour of his zeal for Christianity" circulating 100 copies at his own expense. The *Reformer* and *Gyananyashun* deal with local questions of all kinds, the latter being a diglot one. As for the *Sporting Magazine*, the writer says:—"No tiger dies but his fall is here registered. No boar is speared but the event is here detailed &c. In a word this is the most

popular periodical that ever issued from the Calcutta press." It was conducted by the Editor of the *John Bull*. The *Quarterly Magazine* and *Review* we are told; "would no doubt have a great many more subscribers if it took loftier grounds, and discussed at length and with ability every subject connected with the Government of this great country which may interest the public."

For a more detailed description of some of these journals, the reader must turn to the first volume of this book, from page 149 to 155. Therein, a correspondent of the *Statesman* under the *non-de-plume* of "C. E.", described in glowing language some of the reminiscences of the *Hurkura*, the *Literary Gazette*, the *Englishman*, and other journals.

THE COURIER.

Anent the *Calcutta Courier*, we read in the *Bengal Herald* of February, of 24th, 1839, that Mr. Frederick Osborne, Barrister-at-Law was editor of that paper 1837, in succession to Mr. James Prinsep, the Assay-master of Calcutta and severed his connexion therefrom in February of that year. Captain John Currie, of the Sudder Board, late of Howrah, took its editorial charge in succession to him.

On the 18th September, 1838, as stated in the *Hurkura* of that year, Robert Adair Mcnaughten brought a libel suit against Mr. Osborne, claiming damages for Rs. 30,000, for having published in his paper of the 1st September, a letter under the heading "Nepalese," casting reflections on the character of the plaintiff. We do not know how the case terminated. From an old file of this paper still to be found in the Metcalfe Hall, it appears, that the journal was established in 1832, and that Mr. G. H. Huttman was its proprietor. Mr. G. W. Johnson, editor of this paper was appointed Law Lecturer of the Hindoo College, on a salary

of Rs. 100 per mensem. It was this gentleman and Mr. Samuel Smith responded to the toast on behalf of the Calcutta Press at the annual dinner given by the Agricultural and Horticultural Society of Bengal in January 1840.

“In 1815, “the *Government Gazette*” (the Official Government paper) was first established by the Orphan Society, and continued in existence till April 1832, when several alterations between this Press and Government took place, and amongst them was the measure adopted by Government of dropping “the *Government Gazette*”, and substituting for it the *Calcutta Gazette*. Upon the basis of the old *Government Gazette* arose the *Calcutta Courier*; such is the short history of this journal, as told by the editor of the *Courier* in his issue of January, 1st, 1838. Officially its connection with the Government is at an end. But in consideration of its being one of the *means* towards a most excellent *end*, and in furtherance of the praiseworthy and benevolent objects at which it aims, viz., the swelling of the charitable funds of the Institution to which it is attached, the Government continues to extend towards this paper a certain portion of its patronage.”

THE HISTORY OF THE *GYANANYASHUN*.

The exact dates of its appearance and disappearance are not known to us. We struggled hard to trace out the history of this diglot conducted by immortal Ram Gopal Ghose and his fellow-students, but obtained no information from any source. It appears from a private letter, written by Babu Ram Gopal Ghose to his old class-fellow, Babu Gobind Chunder Bysak, once a Deputy-Magistrate, dated Calcutta, 20th September, 1835, published in our work called “A general biography of Bengal Celebrities,” p. 173, that a fellow student of his named Taruck Chunder Bose was the “principal editor of that paper.” He was

afterwards appointed a Deputy-Collector at Hooghly. Babu Rusik Krishna Mullik of the Bengal Board of Revenue took its editorial charge in 1837 when he was nominated, as stated in the *Englishman* of the 15th February, of that year, a Deputy-Collector under the Burdwan Collectorate. The paper, perhaps, was subsequently edited for some time, by Babu Dakhina Runjun Mukherji with the co-operation of Babu Ram Gopal Ghose and others. (Vide p. 173 of the Bengal Celebrities.)

In 1839, the paper was "conducted" by Babu Ram Chunder Mitter and Huro Mohun Chatterji. (Vide the same work p. 180.)

EXTINCT JOURNALISM OF INDIA.

The London *Saturday Review* wrote a brilliant article under the above heading which was reproduced in the *Indian Observer* of April 19, 1873. The article was this:—

"Towards the close of the last century a weekly paper was started in Calcutta, known to several generations of Anglo-Indians as the *Hurkura*. The nearest English translation of this title would be the *Courier*. After a time the weekly issue was exchanged for a daily; the circulation increased; the paper flourished; some of the best names in eastern journalism used it as their vehicle of expression; and it recently ended an existence of more than seventy years by absorption into another contemporary. It appears to have occurred to the editor of the *Hurkura* in its first season of 1795, that a few woodcuts would enhance the merits of the paper; and accordingly in the first page there is the figure of a man with the motto *Pedefausto*, intended to represent the well-known *Courier* or runner who, before the days of mail-carts and railroads, carried the correspondence of the public all over the peninsula. In reality this person is a wiry, dark-skinned, perspiring native, who, with a minimum of clothing and a wallet slung over his shoulder, runs a post of six miles in the space of an hour and a quarter in fine dry weather, and in two or, it may be, three hours, when ways are foul. The figure in the woodcut is, on the contrary, that of a well-fed and portly person adorned with a turban and clad in a coat and wide Turkish trousers, resembling the traditional Levantine pirate of a ballet or a burlesque. The absurdity of this appears to have attracted notice, for after a few issues, this figure disappears though the motto remains. It is tolerably clear that other

illustrations were not drawn on the spot on stone or wood, but were supplied from England, and inserted without the slightest regard for dramatic propriety and consistency. A mansion in "Chowringhi," and a lower-roomed house (*i. e.*, a bungalow) with a flat roof, near "Teritta Bazar." are facsimilies of the red-brick house tenanted by the village doctor or attorney in a post town in England; a horse is advertised for sale, led in by an English jockey in topboots and a striped waistcoat; and the auctioneer himself, clad in a wig of Dr. Johnson's type, appears at a table, nodding to well-dressed Englishmen and Englishwomen instead of to the motley crowd of subalterns, civilians, and native clerks that frequent a Presidency auction mart. We must premise that for political reasons which we need not stop to explain, the selection of topics was comparatively limited. The Indian press was not practically free until the reign of Lord William Bentinck, nor legally enfranchised until the administration of his successor, Metcalfe. Editors were not allowed to discuss measures affecting the discipline of the native army, or such sacred subjects as the religious feelings of the natives, the good faith and loyalty of our allies, the motives of Governors and Councillors, and foreign policy of the Empire. The papers were consequently made up of advertisements, official and social, items of local news, storms and atmospheric phenomena, and very copious extracts from the European journals. It would be useless to ransack the files of a Calcutta journal of the last century to find out what the editor thought about Scindhia or the Oudh princes, or what were the views of the Anglo-Indian and native community as to the equality of all men in the eye of the law. But it would be no difficult task to say how our predecessors lived, and amused themselves; what wine they drank, what books they read, and what strange custom they either tolerated or cherished. Lotteries on a grand scale were in fashion, and were patronized by gentlemen "of the first respectability," leading merchants, civilians, and barristers. The number of tickets varied from 3,000 to 5,000. Each ticket cost rather more than 10*l.* The prizes were 500 or sometimes 1,000 in number; the blanks from 2,500 to 4,000 and in the former were single sums of 10,000*l.*, and 5,000*l.*, and batches of nine hundred averaging 15*l.* each. Then gentlemen are invited to take tickets in a lottery for a "garden house," sum total 800*l.*, at eighty tickets of 10*l.* each. Private and public theatricals were then, as now, a resource against *ennui*. Residents are told to subscribe to a new comedy in five acts termed *The Mirror*, "the scene of which is laid in Calcutta." H. M.'s 70th Regiment was to give *The Reprisal*, or *The Tars of England*, followed by the farce of *The Old Maid*, and the editor patriotically reminds his readers that the parts will be filled by the same veterans who had lately distinguished themselves on the Mysorean Theatre at the representation of the Siege of Seringapatam."

CAPTAIN ROBIN ADAIR Mc.NAUGHTEN VS.
HENRY TANDY, EDITOR OF THE
AGRA UKHBAR.

SUPREME COURT.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1838.

Before Sir E. Ryan, and Sir J. P. Grant.

The Advocate-General stated the facts of this case thus:—Mr. Stocqueler, the editor of the *Englishman* and the plaintiff are very close friends. The plaintiff has the reputation of being a contributor to the *Englishman* newspaper. The defendant fancied that he detected the writer of certain articles which appeared in the *Englishman* under the signature of *Fiat Justitia*, to be Captain Mc.Naughten, and as some passages in them happened to be disapproved by the defendant, although there was no allusion to the *Agra Ukhbar*, the defendant chose to make a vehement attack upon Captain Mc.Naughten. In alluding to the court-martial upon Captain Husband, the defendant charged the plaintiff with cowardice and dishonourable conduct and with having seduced a lady,

Damages for Rs. 1,000 were awarded to the plaintiff.

CAPTAIN Mc.NAUGHTEN VS. BABU DWARKA
NATH TAGORE.

This was an action brought by Captain Robin Adair Mc.Naughten against the defendant, as a proprietor of the *Bengal Hurkura*, from the alleged libel which appeared in that journal in the shape of a letter called "Love of claret." The defendant had allowed judgment to go by default.

Mr. Leith and Mr. Barwell appeared for the plaintiff, and the Advocate-General alone for the defence. Captain Mc.Naughten used to write to the *Englishman* under the pseudo—nym of "Griffith" and "*Numbernip*." The following letter containing the libel appeared in the *Hurkura*:—

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HURKURA."]

SIR,—A correspondent (meaning Captain Mc.Naughten) of the *Englishman*, who signs himself *Numbernip*, who I suppose may be another yeleft "Griffith," imputes to me a living fondness for a bottle of claret. I own,—and if I blush whilst making the

acknowledgment I hope I blush a *Leoville*. I own the soft impeachment, I emulate Cato of old, though I candidly tell you that I do not think Cato of old ever drank a good glass of wine in his life. Rosin is not a good ingredient in wine, and the Romans admitted Rosin. But shall I let you into the secret, Mr. editor, why Cato and I,—you see I keep good company in my cups—liked and like a glass of wine? It is simply this:—We are not afraid that it will betray us into the confession that we have ever received a dishonourable blow which we dare not resent, or have done many acts unworthy of a soldier and a gentleman (meaning that the plaintiff had received a dishonourable blow which he dared not resent, and that the plaintiff had done many acts unworthy of a soldier and a gentleman, &c, &c).

Sir Edward Ryan remarked that upon the face of the pleadings, there was no libel apparent at all. Damages for one rupee was ordered.

CAPTAIN Mc. NAUGHTEN VS. SAMUAL SMITH.

This was an action for libel against the defendant as editor of the *Hurkura*. Mr. Leith and the Advocate-General who appeared for the plaintiff agreed to strike the case out of the board.—(*Hurk.* Oct. 25, 1838.)

MR. JOAKIM HAYWARD STOCQUELER.

He was the editor of the *Bombay Courier* in 1828. He supported Lord William Bentinck's half-batta system. He was "disengaged" at Bombay at last, left for England, and came back to Calcutta, and served as an assistant to the editor of the *Hurkura*. This must have taken place before he started the *Englishman* newspaper in 1835.

For further particulars of this great Anglo-Indian journalist, the reader must peruse the account of "the origin of the *Englishman* in p. 155-57 of the first volume of this book.

MR. HENRY SWANN OLDFIELD, JUDGE OF TIRHOOT, VS. J. H. STOCQUELER.

The Judge brought a libel suit in the Supreme Court on the 9th of June, 1838, against Mr. Stocqueler for having published a libel in the *Bengal Sporting and General Magazine* in an article under the heading "Mr. Hildebrand Mugglestone's trip to the Mofusil", in which it was stated that the Judge and other officers secured a house from a native for the use of Mr. Mugglestone "for a mere nominal rent." He apologized to the Judge and the case was withdrawn.—(*Hurk.* July 23, 1838.)

NATIVE AND ANGLO-INDIAN EDITORS PROSECUTED IN 1857, UNDER ACT XV OF THAT YEAR.

We read the following in the *Friend of India* of June 25, 1857:—

The editors for four native newspapers, the *Bhaskur*, *Sultani-Ul-Akhbar*, *Doorbin* and the *Sunderchar Sooderbhushun* have been prosecuted by Government for issuing seditious publications. They were committed for trial at the next Criminal Sessions, and bound over on heavy recognizances to appear. Mr. Cecil Beadon appeared on behalf of Government. They were tried by Sir Arthur Buller. Two editors pleaded guilty, and were bound down in their own recognizances to appear when called for. The third has been acquitted."

THE HURKURA,

was similarly gagged on the 18th September, 1857. After a stoppage for a month or so, the paper made its re-appearance on the 1st of October, 1857, having been frightened into making an apology.

A CASE IN AKYAB.

“The *Hurkura* related a significant fact as to the working of the Gagging Act in the Mofusil. A merchant of Akyab introduced into one of his Overland circulars, which are usually lithographed, some remarks upon the state of the country. The Magistrate, it would appear, acting under the orders from the Supreme Government, addressed a letter to the merchant and ruled that all lithographic printing or printings of any kind whatsoever should at once be discontinued.”—(*F. I.* Aug. 20, 1857.)

THE RANGOON CHRONICLE.

“It has been notified to the *Rangoon Chronicle* through Mr. George Dangerfield, the Officiating Magistrate of Rangoon in a letter, dated 5th August, 1857, to R. Godfree, Esq., Proprietor of that paper, that no articles connected with the affairs in Bengal are to be published without their being first submitted to him for approval. This prohibition, or condition of publication extends to extracted as well as original matters. Accordingly the *Rangoon Chronicle* comes out occasionally with blank columns headed the latest intelligence from Calcutta.”—(*F. I.* Sept. 3, 1857.)

THE MADRAS EXAMINER,

“received a warning from Mr. E. Matby, Acting Chief Secretary of the Madras Government, that the license will be withdrawn, if any article appears containing a false statement from the *Hurkura* regarding a supposed intention to remove Dr. Balfour, the Government Agent, at Chapauk, and reflecting on that officer’s official conduct.”

THE SUPPRESSION OF OTHER NEWSPAPERS.

The *Friend of India* in its issue of June 17th, 1857, stated that the *Jami-Jamshed* of Bombay was also suppressed by the Government. Mr. Seymour, editor of the *Bangalore Herald* was compelled to resign for "having merely reproduced" in his paper "the Centenary of Plassey." General Cubbon, the Commissioner of Mysore did all these things. We have at present no more facts to add to this hideous list of harassment of native and Anglo-Indian editors, under the famous Gagging Act of 1857.

 THE WARNING TO THE *FRIEND OF INDIA*.

MR. MEAD OF THE *FRIEND OF INDIA* DURING THE
MUTINY.

Mr. Henry Mead was in temporary charge of this journal in 1857, when the hurricane of the Sepoy Mutiny swept over the land. He wrote a brilliant article which has now a place in the history of the mutiny,—“The Centenary of Plassey,” in the *Friend of India* of June 25th, of that year. We regret for want of space, we cannot reproduce it here in extenso. It gave great umbrage to Lord Canning, the then Governor-General and his Councillors, who by way of warning wrote the following letter to him :—

No. 298.

From the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to J. C. Murray, Esq., Printer and Publisher of the “*Friend of India*.”

Dated Fort William, 29th June, 1857.

General.

SIR,—I am directed to forward for your information the accompanying copy of a letter No. 1202, dated 29th June, 1857, from the Secretary to the Government of India in the Home Department, relative to an article which appeared in your paper of the 25th instant.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

A. R. YOUNG,

Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

No. 1202.

From CECIL BEADON, Esq., *Secretary to the Govt. of India*, to
A. R. YOUNG, Esq., *Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal*.

Dated the 29th June, 1857.

Home Department.

SIR,—The attention of the Governor-General in Council has been given to the first leading article headed, 'The Centenary of Plassey' which appeared in the *Friend of India* of the 25th instant, and especially to the two last paragraphs which in the judgment of his Lordship in Council are fraught with mischief and calculated at the present time to spread disaffection towards the British Government both among its native subjects and among dependent and allied States.

The article in question infringes every one of the three conditions upon which licenses to keep a printing Press are now to be granted. It tends to excite disaffection towards the British Government amongst great masses of the people; it tends to create alarm and suspicion among the Hindu and Mahomedan population, of intended interference by Government with their Religion; and it tends to weaken the friendship towards the Government of Native Princes, Chiefs and States in dependence upon and alliance, with it.

Whatever the intentions of the writer may have been, the tendency of the article is as above described, and the publication of such remarks, even if innocent and admissible in ordinary times is now under the critical circumstances which rendered the passing of Act No. 15 of 1857 necessary most dangerous not only to the Government, but to the lives of all Europeans in the Provinces not living under the close protection of British bayonets.

I am directed therefore to request that with the permission of the Lieutenant-Governor the views of the Government of India may be communicated to the publisher of the *Friend of India*, and that he may be warned that the repetitions of remarks of this dangerous nature will be followed by the withdrawal of this License.

The Governor-General in Council has no intention of interfering with the fair discussion of public measures, but he cannot now

permit the circulation in India of writings so framed as to excite popular disaffection.

I have &c.,
(Signed) G. BEADON.
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Council Chamber,
The 29th June 1857. }

(True copy.)

A. R. YOUNG, Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

The warning was given after repeated offences. Mr. Henry Mead was afterwards compelled by the proprietor of the *Friend of India* to resign the editorial chair to avert the wrath of the Governor-General in Council.

THE BOMBAY LIBEL CASE IN 1862.

We take the following facts of this case from the *Friend of India* of May 8, 1862 :—

“On the 21st October, 1861, Mr. Cursondass Moolji, editor of the *Sutya Prokash* published an article in which he charged the Maharajahs or high priests of the Wallabacharya sect with teaching immoral doctrines, and indulging in adulterous practices with their female devotees; and accused Jodunathji Brizrutunji, a high priest in Bombay noted for his opposition to religious and educational reforms, as especially guilty of the grossest immorality. The Maharajah brought a civil action against the editor, whose leading counsel was the well-known Mr. Chisholm Anstey. The Chief Justice Sir Joseph Arnould gave a verdict for the defendant on the main issues with costs. The plaintiff was, however, allowed damage for Rs. 5.

JOURNALISM IN BANGALORE.

We take the following from the *Madras Standard* of April 2, 1895 :—

To the many interested in the progress of journalism in Bangalore, the announcement made in the leading columns of the *Bangalore Spectator* the other day, that that old established journal would cease to exist on Saturday, (30th March) came as a sudden

shock. Its nucleus known as the *Bangalore Herald*, was weekly publication started in Bangalore so early as 1862. Its organisers were that public spirited Bangalorean, the late Mr. J. W. Hayes, and Mr. H. James with whom the former entered into partnership. As far as locally can be remembered its first editor was the Revd. C. Traveller, who is described as having been a powerful penman in his day. He guided the early destinies of the weekly some considerable time, and relinquished charge to another clerical gentleman, the Revd. Dr. Edwards, a Roman Catholic priest of extensive literary attainments. History, such as we now endeavour to compile, does not record any reference to the possibility of a religious bias with reference to the journal. A Mr. Shallard succeeded Dr. Edwards, of whose editor-ship an amusing episode is related. Incidentally one day among other items Mr. Shallard chronicled the fact, that "a bumptious young cornet" of a Cavalry Corps stationed in Bangalore had, the night previously while merry at mess, flung a loaf of bread at the butler's head thereby dislodged the latter's head gear. Where the office of the *Herald* was located in those early days, we do not know, but this much is handed down to posterity, that next morning Mr. Shallard was seen flying bare-headed down Church Street with "a bumptious young cornet" at his heels. The Cornet tapped the editorial claret that morning, and the up-shot of it all was a protracted Police Court proceeding in the Cantonment Magistrate's Court then located in the present Lytton Hotel. Ultimately, the case was carried to the High Court of Madras, where the Cavalry Officer was convicted; and the case being considered one worthy of more than ordinary official record, was reported in the High Court reports of the time. At this stage Messrs. Higginbotham and Co., of Madras, purchased the *Herald*, changed its name to that of the *Bangalore Spectator* and converted the new publication into a tri-weekly. This was in 1868, when Mr. H. L. Hughes, an ex-Military man of marked literary talent, was given editorial charge. He was regarded as an exceedingly spicy writer, and one who made himself deservedly popular. A few years later, the late Mr. Curth and Mr. T. T. Leonard now in charge of the Mysore Government Press purchased the concern from Messrs. Higginbotham and Co., and Mr. Plumbé, (father of the present Superintendent of the Lawrence Asylum Press) came on the scene in the capacity of Editor. He was esteemed for many excellent qualities that characterised most of the literary men of the near past. Then Mr. Curth died and Mr. T. T. Leonard bought up his share and became sole proprietor. Mr. Kent now deceased, and Mr. F. Goodall at present conducting the *Evening Mail*, thereafter took up the business, and having helped materially to make good newspaper history in the Province relinquished in 1882 all right and title of the *Spectator* to Mr. H. W. Olleff, and the late Mr. J. Pereira. On the death of the latter partner, a few years back, his

interest was bequeathed to Mr. George Pereira who has now dissolved with the remaining partner. Of ups and downs the *Spectator* had much the same that fall to the lot of Indian newspapers. Nevertheless, it is beyond dispute that it has in its time achieved the varied good that newspapers can possibly profess to achieve. What its policy was during its youth is wrapped in some obscurity, but the reminiscence has scarcely died out that not very many years before Mr. Olleff took up the paper it came to some manner of grief over public feeling with reference to the Rangacharlu Dewans hip. The *Spectator* appears to have given serious offence to the Mysore Government, and was in consequence for some time under a cloud.

MR. JAMES ROUTLEDGE.

The *Hindoo Patriot* wrote as follows:—

“A correspondent of the *Friend of India* makes the following disclosures regarding the Government connection with the Press:”

“It will perhaps interest you to hear that during the regime of Lord Mayo, an attempt was made, by letters and otherwise to seduce the—into publishing articles written by members of the Government. “Early intelligence was offered that traditional bait of an Indian Governor when dealing with an Editor, and even a more decided form of subsidy. The member of the Government who attempted to thus negotiate with Mr.—told him that the leaders would be strictly on political subjects, and that he must receive them without any question as to their authorship, Mr.—was to have right of private *entree* at Government House, and early news from Cabul and the Gulf, where civil war was then raging. The editor politely refused the offer, and large number of official essays on the politics of that time have consequently been lost.

We had heard that story at the time. If we were informed aright the editor plied upon was Mr. Routledge of the *Friend*, and the member of Government, who negotiated was Sir John Strachey. We hope we were misinformed. Of course Mr. Routledge politely declined the offer.”—(*H. P.* June 21, 1875.)

Mr. James Routledge came out to this country in the middle of the year 1869 to edit the *Friend of India* during the absence of Dr. Smith, his immediate predecessor. He was formerly the editor of the *Dundee Advertiser*, and was also on the staff of the *Spectator*, Macmillan's Magazine, and the *Contemporary Review*. The late Hon'ble Kristo Das Pal in a leading article in the *Hindoo Patriot* of October, 21st, 1872, thus spoke of him, when in November of the same year, he retired.

"In the world of Indian journalism few could for instance approach Mr. Marshman in his mastery of Indian details, or in the successful handling of practical questions, or Mr. Meredith Townsend in the brilliancy of thought and style.

Those who succeeded, these Liviathans of Indian journalistic literature, Dr. Mead, (Mr. Henry Mead) Mr. Jennings, now editor of the *New Work Tribune*, and Dr. George Smith, were all very able men, but neither Mr. Marshman, nor Mr. Townsend, nor their successors ever imported such a high moral tone to the *Friend* as Mr. Routledge has done."

Mr. Routledge fought almost single-handed the cause of justice in the now celebrated Kuka struggle till at last he triumphed. The Resolution of Lord Napier's Government in the Kuka case will remain the best monument of Mr. Routledge's moral courage.

With the exception of the late lamented Mr. Robert Knight, we do not know of a more sympathetic journalist cherishing a sincere love for the people of India than Mr. James Routledge. On the 23rd of November, 1872, the educated natives of Bengal presented an address to him in the Utterpara Public Library Hall. The full report of the demonstration will be found in the *Hindoo Patriot* of November 25th, 1872.

Mr. Routledge wrote us the following letter in 1886 when we wrote the Life of the late Hon'ble Kristo Das Pal:—

BIRMINGHAM :

December 6th, 1886.

MY DEAR SIR,

I last week received your circular and note. You ask me for letters, and at the same time tell me that the book will be out in December—the present month. My letters are all packed up, for our “moving”, but even I had them at my hand, they would have been too late for you; would they not? I trust you will have a great success. Babu Kristo Das Pal was one of the bravest, truest, sincerest men I ever knew, and one of the finest gentlemen. He was the *Hindoo Patriot*—the fact in life. No Englishman in all India was fitter, at any rate, to fill the highest office in India, and very few were as fit. I wish I could proclaim from the top of Westminster Abbey, my matured opinion of our dear friend—of his high intellect, his courageous spirit, and I hope his undying fame. I am not by any means sure of the future of India, but I am sure of this, that through whatever trials you, or we, may be destined to pass, one name and fame will come out mightily from them all,—the name and fame of Babu Kristo Das Pal.

You will see that I omit the “Honourable.” I think of my friend as he was to me—Kristo Das Pal.

I am, my dear Sir,

Yours Truly,

(Sd.) JAMES ROUTLEDGE.

To

BABU RAM GOPAL SANYAL.

DOCTOR GEORGE BUIST.

We take the following from the *Indian Observer* of December, 14, 1872:—

“The Indian Press has borne many characters and experienced many vicissitudes, but not the least interesting episode in its history is the petition, complaining of the evidence given before the Select Committee of the House of Lords on the Government of Indian Territories, on the subject of newspapers in India, presented by Doctor George Buist, the Editor of the *Bombay Times*, and dated the 17th November, 1852. The petition itself is still an exceedingly interesting document, not only as illustrating the career of the then oldest and most extensively circulated journal in Western India, but as affording evidence of the estimation in which the Indian Press was generally held twenty years ago. It was presented to their Lordships in order to correct the false impression

which the public might receive from the evidence on Indian newspapers given before the Committee. In this petition he vindicated the Indian Press from the charge of being hostile to Government, and hit at Sir Charles Napier, "who mentioned the *Gentleman's Gazette* in his public letters, as the only upright, respectable paper in India, that journal having been pronounced by the unanimous voice of the Indian Press, a disgrace to it."

Mr. John Stuart Mill in his evidence before the House of Lords Committee in 1852, said, "that a most erroneous view of English Society in India would be taken, were it judged of by the press; that newspapers in India are of very little use to Government, unless in promoting enquiry, and that the English newspaper press in India has little to do with natives, or the interests of the country."

For other particulars of his early career, the reader must peruse p. 143, of the first volume of this book.

HISTORY OF THE NEWSPAPERS OF BOMBAY.

"Mr. Bomanjee Byramjee Patel, the author of the "Parsee Prakash," delivered on the 2nd of April, 1895, at the Framjee Cowasjee Institute, the fifth public lecture of the season under the auspices of the "Dnyan Prasarak Mandali," Mr. K. R. Cama presiding.

Proceeding further, Mr. Patel said that the first English printing press was established in Bombay in 1778 by a Parsee named Mr. Rustumjee Kershaspjee. It was from this Press that the first English calendar was published in Bombay in 1780, it being described as a "Calendar for the year of our Lord 1780, printed by Rustumjee Kershaspjee in the Bazar, Price Rupees 2." The first English Printing Press in Calcutta was established in 1780, and the next year the very first English journal in India began to be published by the same Press under the name of *Hickey's Calcutta Journal*. The first English Newspaper in Bombay came into existence in 1789 under the name of the *Bombay Herald*. This was followed in 1790 by the well-known paper then called the *Bombay Courier*. In 1791

the name of the *Bombay Herald* was changed into *Bombay Gazette*. From 1792 the patronage of the Bombay Government began to be extended to the *Bombay Courier* in the shape of Government advertisements and jobworks, which yielded to the paper an annual income of about Rs. 20,000 for several years. In those days newspapers were subjected to various restrictions. In 1799 the Government of the Marquis of Wellesley passed a special Act in that behalf which was strictly enforced. No article was allowed to be published unless it had previously been read and approved of by the Chief Secretary to Government who was appointed to be the Censor of the Press. In Bombay this office was for the first time held by Mr. Francis Warden, the Chief Secretary to Government, who continued to hold it for about 15 years. His duty was to read the proof sheets and to expunge therefrom all matters in any way prejudicial to the Government. Care was also taken to see that naval and shipping intelligence did not in any way prejudicially affect the interests of the East India Company. It was in consequence of the Act, and the circular below referred to, that several editors were deported from Bombay, and several others were obliged to tender apologies. The Act continued to be in force in India for about twenty years. It was in 1818 that the Marquis of Hastings abolished it from Calcutta, and it was during the *regime* of Mountstuart Elphinstone that some of its restrictions were removed from Bombay, although subsequently, at the instance of the then Recorder's Court in Bombay, which afterwards became the late Supreme Court, the Government issued and sent round a circular to the editors of newspapers intimating, that those who wrote against Government officers, or with a view to lower the Court in public esteem would be liable to punishment. In June, 1822, the Government of India issued an order to the effect that officers in the service of the East India Company should refrain from writing in

the newspapers any personal matters touching the posts held by them, although they were at liberty to write other news or articles. This last mentioned privilege was also discontinued in 1826 in pursuance of a Resolution of the Court of Directors dated the 11th May, 1826, and Government servants were strictly prohibited from having any connection whatever as editors, proprietors, or contributors with any newspaper. This was stoutly opposed by the English Press. In 1822, the Bombay Government opened their own Printing Press, and the *Bombay Government Gazette* first came into existence on the 6th of August, 1831. In 1835 all the restrictions therefore imposed on the Press were removed from Bombay, and about twenty years afterwards, in 1854, the Government so far changed its policy and attitude towards the Press that an "Editors' Room" was opened in the Secretariat, where Government news of public interest was laid open for the use of the Press. The *Bombay Courier* continued its existence for 56 years, after which it was amalgamated on the 1st January, 1847, with the *Bombay Telegraph*, a bi-weekly journal, started in July 1846 by Mr. Jamieson, and that amalgamated paper was called the *Telegraph and Courier*. The *Bombay Gazette*, which took the place of the *Bombay Herald* in 1791, was continued till 1840 when it was sold for Rs.15,5000. Prior to that in 1839, on the occasion of the conversion to Christianity of two Parsee lads, this journal having strongly advocated the cause of the Missionaries and passed strictures on the Parsee community, the Parsee subscribers of the paper entirely withdrew the support they had accorded it, and the new proprietor of the paper was obliged to give the following explanation regarding the policy of the paper in its issue of 12th June, 1840:—"We have learned with great regret that many of our Parsee friends, judging from the tone of previous remarks, have imbibed an opinion that our journal was to be exclusively conducted upon the

principles which guided it formerly. We beg to assure the Parsee community, among whom we have many highly estimable friends, that our journal now is perfectly free and unbiassed." The paper ceased to exist from August, 1842. This was followed by the *British Indian Gentleman's Gazette* and *Bombay Daily Newspaper*, which was started on the 6th March, 1843, and continued till 12th November 1849, when the late Mr. John Cannon became its sole proprietor and again changed its name into the *Bombay Gazette*. In 1838 a partnership was formed with a capital of Rs. 36,000 to start a paper containing mainly commercial news. This partnership started on the 3rd November, 1838, a paper called the *Bombay Times and Journal of Commerce* under the editorship of Dr. Brenen. The paper advocated the establishment of the Bombay Bank and made important suggestions touching the commerce of this city, and hence it began to command a large circulation. In 1840 Dr. George Buist succeeded Dr. Brenen as editor of the *Bombay Times*. The same year an *Overland Mail Summary* of the paper began to be issued from the month of September. Dr. Buist conducted the editorship of the paper with great ability till 1857, when, the Indian Mutiny having broken out, he began to write very strong articles against natives, which eventually led to his leaving the post towards the end of 1857. In January, 1858, Dr. Buist started a newspaper called the *Bombay Standard*, which, after the lapse of two years, was amalgamated with the *Bombay Times*. The *Bombay Times* was purchased in 1860 by the well-known Mr. Robert Knight in conjunction with Mr. Matthias Mull, and they changed the name of the paper to that of the *Times of India* on the 18th of May, 1861, from which date the paper has continued under the same name. In July, 1861, the *Telegraph and Courier* was also amalgamated with the *Times of India*, which was then very ably conducted by Mr. Robert Knight,

who as the editor rendered signal service to the country for several years by advocating the cause of the natives and promoting a friendly union between natives and Europeans. In recognition of this service the native inhabitants of this city presented him with a purse of Rs. 67,126 in May, 1864. The lecturer then gave a short account of the following English newspapers of Bombay, namely: the *Irish*, the *Bombay Chronicle*, the *Bombay Literary Gazette*, the *Bombay Monthly Gleaner*, the *Bombay Examiner*, the *United Service Gazette*, the *Bombay Sporting Magazine*, the *World*, the *Bombay Witness*, the *Bombay Guardian*, the *Oriental News*, the *Saturday India*, the *Indian Statesman*, the *Star of India*, the *Argus*, the *Indian Spectator*, the *Advocate of India*, etc. Adverting to Gujarati newspapers, Mr. Patel said that the *Bombay Samachar* was the first Gujarati Weekly started in the city in 1822 by the late Mr. Furdonjee Marazbanjee, adding, by the way, that the first native paper in India began to be published in Serampore within the limits of the Bengal Presidency, and in the Bengali language by the Christian Missionaries, Dr. Marshman and Mr. Warde, in May, 1818, under the name of *Samachar Darpan*. Mr. Marazban continued to be the proprietor and editor of the *Bombay Samachar* for about ten years in the midst of great difficulty. He was also the founder of the first Gujarati Printing Press in Bombay, which came into existence in 1812, and from which the first Gujarati Calendar was issued in 1814. Mr. Patel here pointed out that it was, however, in 1797 that Gujarati types were for the first time moulded in this city, in a very limited quantity, by Mr. Byramjee Jeejeebhoy Chhapgar, then a printer in the service of the *Bombay Courier*, for the purposes of the Gujarati advertisements which occasionally appeared in that paper, and which the lecturer had himself seen. The 1st of July, 1822, might be regarded as a red letter day in the history of the Gujarati newspaper of this city, as on that

day the first issue of the *Bombay Samachar* was published. Its subscription at the time was Rs. 2 per month, and the Government of Mountstuart Elphinstone patronised it by subscribing for 50 copies of the paper, which began to be bi-weekly in 1833, and continued to be so till the 1st of November, 1860, when it became a daily paper. In September, 1830, the late Mr. Nowrojee Dorabjee Chabuk, who was assistant to Mr. Marazban in the *Bombay Samachar*, started on his own account a weekly under the name of *Mumbai Karkman*, which was converted into a bi-weekly in 1831 under the name of *Hulkaroo and Vaertman*, and was called *Chabuk* from November, 1833. The *Chabuk* continued to exist till 1872, when it was submerged into the *Akhbarce-Soudagar*. The *Jam-i-Jamshed* newspaper first came into existence on the 8th March, 1832. It was originally a weekly, and its founder, Mr. Pestonjee Maneckjee, being the then secretary of the Parsee Punchayet, all news relating to Parsees generally appeared in that journal, which began to be a bi-weekly, in 1838, and continued to be so till the 1st of August, 1853, when it was converted into a Daily. The *Mumbai Durbin* was the next paper which came into existence in 1838, and continued for about eight years. On 1st August, 1840 originated a Gujarati daily called the *Samachar Darpan*, which continued its existence for twenty years, until it was amalgamated in 1868 with the *Akhbarce-Soudagar* which was started in 1852, and has continued down to the present time. In 1850 a weekly under the name of *Chitra Dnyan Darpan* was started, which continued till the end of 1854. The well-known *Rast Gofter* was started as a weekly in 1851 by Mr. Dababhai Naoroji, M.P. After giving a short account of that paper, the lecturer briefly referred to the *Parsee Reformer*, *Parsee Punch*, *Satya Dipak*, *Suryodaya*, *Loke-Mitra*, *Arya-Mitra*, *Gujarati*, *Sabya-Mitra*, *Kaiser-i-Hind* and about 30 other Gujarati newspapers of Bombay, some of which are still in existence.

MR. DAVID COWIE

In 1863, or thereabout, Mr. David Cowie, as Sheriff of Calcutta, refused to call a public meeting on a requisition of certain European inhabitants of Calcutta, and Mr. Walter Brett, editor of the *Englishman*, as their representative lodged a complaint against the Sheriff before Sir Barnes Peacock, the then Chief Justice, and Sir Barnes replied that it was neither obligatory upon the Sheriff to call a public meeting, nor was it necessary to obtain the sanction of the Sheriff to a public meeting. This anecdote, Babu Kristo Das Pal recited, on the occasion of the passing of the Vernacular Press Act in 1878 when the Calcutta Sheriff refused to convene a public meeting in the Town Hall on the requisition of the British Indian Association.—(Vide *H. P.*, April 9th, 1878.)

THE LIBEL CASE AGAINST THE EDITOR OF
THE BOMBAY GAZETTE.

On the 18th December 1838, Sir John Awdry in the Bombay Supreme Court sentenced Mr. McCallum, the editor of the *Bombay Gazette* for having defamed Sir John Malcolm, late Superintendent of the Indian Navy to 3 months' imprisonment, to pay a fine of Rs. 1,000, to enter into recognizances himself for Rs. 2,000, and to find two sureties, each for Rs. 10,000 that he keeps the peace towards the Queen and all her subjects for two years.—(*Bombay Gazette*, Dec. 19, 1838.)

MR. NURSIMMALU VS. THE MADRAS TIMES.

The *Madras Times* wrote a series of articles against this native Deputy-Collector, alledging that he decided cases against railway officials in favour of his relatives and so on. For this indictment Mr. Nursimmalu brought a libel suit against the

Editor, and the Supreme Court of Madras allowed the plaintiff damages of Rs. 500 with costs amounting to Rs. 3,000.— (F. I. Sept. 11, 1869.)

BAL GUNGADHUR TILAK, EDITOR OF THE MAHARRATTA OF POONA.

The *Maharatta* of Poona was started in 1880. The *Deccan Star* was incorporated with it.

“We take the following from the *Hindoo Patriot*:—

“Bal Gungadhur Tilak, editor of the *Maharatta*, and Gopal Gonesh Agarkar, editor of the *Kesari*, who were each sentenced to four months’ simple imprisonment at the Criminal Sessions of Bombay in June, for defaming Rao Bahadur Wasedeo Mahadev Barve, State Karbari of Kolhapur, were thus honored on release from jail. A carriage and pair waited in the jail compound, and Messrs. Tilak and Agarkar having taken their seats in it were driven out on the public road, where they were welcomed by upwards of a thousand people. They were then decorated with garlands, flowers being also strewn over them. Munshi Sheikh Husein Junakur having presented them with an address, they were taken to Girgaum, behind the bungalow of the late Hon. Maroji Goculdas, where some more garlands were put round them; speeches were also delivered. In the evening they were entertained at Byculla, and on the following day an address were presented to them at the Mahdev Bagh, Lowaji Pytel Tank.”

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL VS. THE SOMAJ DARPAN.

The *Hindoo Patriot* in one of a series of articles published in 1873, under the heading “Personal Government, IV,” stated the facts of this case. It appears that in the Report of the native papers of the week ending the 31st December, 1872, the Government Translator noticed a new vernacular paper called the *Somaj Darpan*, one of the early numbers of which contained a squib upon Mr. Campbell and Mr. Bernard. He published a letter under the heading *The Parlour at Hazaribagh* “designed to hold the Lieutenant-Governor up to ridicule.”

Mr. Campbell instead of enjoying the fun, took offence at the publication of this funny letter. He found in the paper a notice to the effect that "letters or articles for publication as also all subscriptions are to be sent to Babu Josodanundun Sircar, Deputy-Inspector of schools at Khulna. From this notice, His Honor thought him to be the editor or proprietor of the paper and suspended him. The Deputy-Inspector stated that a relative of his was its proprietor, and the notice was inserted in the paper without his knowledge.

Babu Janoki Nath Mutt, a public-spirited newspaper correspondent of the *Indian Mirror* informed us in reply to our query, that Babu Josoda Nundun Sircar, an inhabitant of Jougram, five miles from Bhastara, was dismissed from the Service by Sir George Campbell. The paper was then transferred to Calcutta and placed under the editorial charge of his brother Babu Rohiny Kant Sircar. But the paper died of inanition soon. Babu Shoshi Bhushun Mitter of Kalipahari informed us also, that Babu Josoda Nundun Sircar was the author of "Poet's Ganges," and the translator of *Rutisunghar* into Bengali.

PRIVATE PROSECUTIONS OF NATIVE EDITORS DURING THE LAST FORTY YEARS.

The most noteworthy private prosecutions of the native Editors from immortal Hurish Chunder Mukerji down to the case of Srimuti Kadumbini Ganguly (wife of our esteemed patriotic friend, Babu Dwarka Nath Ganguly) *vs.* Babu Mohesh Chunder Pal of the *Bunganibashi* may be approximately tabulated as follows :—

| Year. | Name of the Parties. | Result. |
|-------|--|--|
| 1860. | Messrs. Archibald Hills and George Meares, <i>vs.</i> Babu Hurish Chunder Mukherji, editor of the <i>Hindoo Patriot</i> . —(Vide p. 157-58 of the first volume of this book.) | Nominal damages were granted, and costs of the suit had to be paid to the plaintiff. |

| Year. | Name of the Parties. | Result. |
|-------|---|---|
| 1868 | Eastern Bengal Railway Company <i>vs.</i> Babu Kristo Das Pal.—(Vide p. 55-60 of our biography of Babu K. D. Pal.) | Apology was tendered, and costs of the suit had to be paid. |
| 1869 | The prosecution of Babu Shishir Kumar Ghose of the <i>Amrita Bazar Patrika</i> before Mr. Westland, the then Magistrate of Jessore, on a charge of concealment of evidence. | The editor of the <i>Amrita Bazar Patrika</i> escaped, but the writer of the defamatory article was punished. |
| 1879 | The late Rai Bahadur Jodu Nath Roy of Krishnaghur <i>vs.</i> Babu Norendro Nath Sen, editor of the <i>Indian Mirror</i> . | The <i>Indian Mirror</i> won the case. |
| 1886 | Mr. Thomas De Burgh Miller <i>vs.</i> Mr. Robert Knight of the <i>Statesman</i> . | Case ultimately compromised and withdrawn. |
| 1890 | The sons of Babu Deno Nath Mullik <i>vs.</i> Dr. Sambhu Chunder Mukherji, editor of <i>Reis and Rayyet</i> , | Fined Rs. 500. |
| 1892 | Mrs. Kadumbini Ganguly <i>vs.</i> Babu Mohesh Chunder Pal, the proprietor of the <i>Bunganibashi</i> , | Payment of partial damages. |

As we have described in detail the facts of the famous case of Mr. Archibald Hills and Mr. George Meares of the Nishchindipore Indigo factory in the District of Nuddea against Babu Hurish Chunder Mukerji, we need not repeat them here. The immortal Hurish Chunder Mukherji was then on his death-bed, and his house was attached after his death.

in 1861, in execution of the decree for costs in this case, but the members of the British Indian Association paid off the amount of the costs and saved the house from being sold at a public auction. The tremendous self-sacrifice made by Babu Hurish Chunder Mukerji in this case has no other parallel in the history of Indian Journalism, and will for ever enshrine his name in the pages of Indian history.

THE CASE AGAINST THE *INDIAN MIRROR*.

The case of Rai Jodu Nath Rai Bahadur, one of the most patriotic men of Krishnaghur in the District of Nuddea against Babu Norendro Nath Sen, Editor of the *Indian Mirror* arose in this way.

It was in the year 1878, the notorious swindler, Bani Gopal Mukherji of Krishnaghur embezzled from the Nuddea Road-Cess Fund a sum of ten lacs of rupees, and made him *non est* for a few months, and roved about the country in a clandestine manner. He sometimes took refuge in the house of his cousin, the late Babu Rai Jadu Nath Rai Bahadur without his knowledge, and remained for a night or so in the inner apartment of his palacial building. This fact was known to Babu Tarapada Bannerji B. L., a Pleader of the local Judge's Court, who in a letter published in the *Indian Mirror* divulged the secrecy, and thereby casting a reflection on the said Rai Bahadur.

On the publication of the letter in question, Babu Jadu Nath Rai Bahadur requested the Editor of the *Indian Mirror* either to retract the imputations cast upon his character, or to give up the name of the anonymous correspondent. The Editor having refused to do so in consultation with the writer of the letter who took the entire responsibility upon his shoulder, Babu Jadu Nath Rai Bahadur instituted a libel case against the Editor before Mr. W. H. Gun, the then Joint-Magistrate of Krishnaghur. The case was heard for a month or two, and

ably argued by Mr. Jackson, Barrister-at-Law of the Calcutta High Court, and Babu Tarapada Bannerji B. L., for the defence, and Mr. Mano Mohun Ghose, Barrister-at-Law for the prosecution. The case was ultimately won by the Editor of the *Indian Mirror*, on the ground that the allegations made in the letter were made in good faith.

THE CASE AGAINST THE *AMRITA BAZAR PATRIKA*.

It was in 1869, a libellous article under the heading *Pathuckgunnerpriti* appeared in the said journal casting reflection on one Mr. Wright. Mr. Monro, now a missionary was then Magistrate of Jessore and punished Babu Rajkristo Mitter, a Government clerk with imprisonment for having written that article. Babu Shishir Kumar Ghose, the famous Editor of that paper was also prosecuted before Mr. Westland, (now Financial Minister of the Government of India) the then Magistrate of Jessore on the charge of "concealment of evidence." He was acquitted at last by the High Court of Calcutta, through the able advocacy of Mr. Mano Mohun Ghose, Barrister-at-Law. For the full particulars of this case, the reader must peruse the depositions in this case published in the *Hindu Patriot* of 1869.

THE CASE OF MR. ROBERT KNIGHT.

It was in 1886, Mr. Robert Knight the fearless, wrote a series of articles under the inspiration of Dr. Jogendro Nath Bhattacharji, a Minister of the Burdwan Raj against Mr. Thomas De Burgh Miller, and the Hon'ble Raja Bun Behary Kupur, the illustrious father of the present Maharajah of Burdwan, casting reflections upon them for having misused money belonging to the said Raj. Mr. Miller was also charged with "gross exactions," and "criminal misappropriation", &c. He thereupon brought a libel suit against Mr. Knight and his

printer Mr. David Barlow, which was ultimately heard by the Hon'ble Mr. Justice O'Kinealy at the fourth Criminal Sessions held on the 21st July of that year. The case before the Sessions was conducted by a clique of hostile Anglo-Indians on behalf of Mr. Miller who had died in the midst of the case, headed by Messrs. Gasper, Barrister-at-Law, and Maggregor, the famous anti-native correspondent of the *London Times*. Mr. W. C. Bonnerji ably defended Mr. Robert Knight and his printer at a great self-sacrifice. After a protracted and harassing trial, the Jury unanimously acquitted the printer, and a verdict of "not guilty" by six jurors against three was passed in favour of the editor. But the presiding civilian Judge did not accept it, and ordered a re-trial of the case at the next Sessions. Mr. Knight at last compromised the case with the help of the late lamented Mr. George Yule. (Vide *Reis and Rayyet* p. 355-58, 67-70, 80-81, 93, and 548.)

As a great admirer of Mr. Robert Knight, we did our best to help him in this case. He wrote the following letter to us, which, we doubt not, will be now read with interest:—

THE *Statesman* :

3, CHOWRINGHI,

Calcutta 3rd August, 1886.

MY DEAR SIR,

"The Defence Association have just sent me a letter disavowing all knowledge of the prosecution. It is being carried on by a knot of private Englishmen (officials and lawyers) who are dishonest to be known, but who have the *secret* support of the Government, I fear. They wanted to crush the *Statesman*, and thought to terrify the whole press by doing so: but the baseness is recoiling upon themselves."

Believe me,

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) R. KNIGHT.

To

BABU RAM GOPAL SANTAL.

We must not omit to mention one fact in connection with this trial. The late Dr. Sumbhu Chunder Mukherji and his

friend Babu Jogesh Chunder Dutt, now joint-editor of *Reis and Rayyet*, and the well-known patriotic Parsee gentleman, Mr. R. D. Mehta stood bail for Mr. Knight during this famous trial.

CAVALI VENKATAPATHI RAO GAM, B.L.

“Madras mourns the loss of a most promising and deserving son. *Native Public Opinion* thus records the melancholy intelligence :

“The representative of a noble line of ancestors, the proprietor of an extensive Zemindari in the North, and of a beautiful jaagir in the Chingleput Collectorate, the Vakeel of longest standing under the new rules of the Madras High Court, the only native legal practitioner that had a very extensive practice on the Original Side of the Madras High Court, and the man whose honesty secured him the esteem of his brother practitioners, breathed his last at Comalashwerpett at 11 P.M. on Wednesday night.”

The late Cavali Venkatapathi Rao Gam, B.L., was the grandson of the famous Cavali Lakshmaiya. The lamented deceased took great interest in starting the journal from which we take the above, the only English organ of the Native public of Madras. He was a Freemason.”—(*H. P.* Feb. 17, 1873.)

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS IN 1875.

| | | | <i>Eng.</i> | <i>Ver.</i> | <i>Eng. & Ver.</i> |
|-------------------------|-----|-----|-------------|-------------|------------------------|
| Bombay | ... | ... | 35 | 62 | 21 |
| Madras | ... | ... | 36 | 23 | 25 |
| Bengal | ... | ... | 35 | 59 | 5 |
| North Western Provinces | ... | ... | 9 | 59 | 5 |
| Punjab | ... | ... | 10 | 30 | 1 |
| Oudh | ... | ... | 4 | 7 | 8 |
| Central Provinces | ... | ... | 3 | 4 | 2 |
| British Burmah | ... | ... | 14 | 5 | 0 |
| Sind | ... | ... | 9 | 3 | 1 |
| Rajpootana | ... | ... | 0 | 2 | 4 |
| Total | ... | ... | 155 | 254 | 69 |

—(*H. P.* Aug. 2, 1875.)

THE TABLE OF SOME NATIVE AND ANGLO-INDIAN JOURNALS OF INDIA.

We appealed to most of the Indian Journalists of our own time to fill up the following tabular form, containing a short history of their respective journals. With a few exceptions, the following editors have kindly responded to our call. The table runs thus:—

BENGAL.

Dacca.

| Name of the Newspapers. | Name of the Proprietors. | Name of the Editors. | Date of its publication. | Number of volumes up to the year 1895. |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--|---|
| The <i>East</i> ... | Babu Bunga Chunder Roy | Babu Mohim Chunder Sen | 1st January, 1875] | 21 vols. |
| The <i>Dacca Prokash</i> ... | Babu Guru Gunga Chowdhry. | Babu Guru Gunga Chowdhry. | Choitra, 1267 (B. S.) | 35 vols. |
| The <i>Bengal Times</i> ... | Edward Chippindall Kemp, Esq. | E. C. Kemp, Esq. | Some forty years ago. I (Mr. E. C. Kemp says,) cannot trace its date, as my predecessor Mr. Barbarously destroyed our first files. | XXVI as the <i>Bengal Times</i> only, which is a Phoenix of the old <i>Dacca News and Planters' Journal</i> . |

| Name of the Newspapers. | Name of the Proprietors. | Name of the Editors. | Date of its publication. | Number of volumes up to the year 1895. |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------|--|
| <i>The Dacca Gazette</i> ... | Particulars not given. | | | ... |
| MOOSESHEADAD. | | | | |
| <i>Pratikar</i> ... | Babu Kamakshya Prosad Ganguly. | K. P. Ganguly ... | The 31st March, 1876 ... | 19 vols. |
| BORDWAN. | | | | |
| <i>The Burdwan Sanjibani</i> ... | Babu Jogesh Chunder Sirkar. | J. C. Sirkar ... | Bysak, 1285 (B. S.) ... | 17 vols. |
| RONGORUN. | | | | |
| <i>The Rangpur Dikprokash</i> | Rajah Mohima Roy Chowdhry. | Har Sankara Moitra, editor, and Babu Purna Chunder Laherey, sub-editor. | Bysak, 1267 (B.S.) ... | 35 vols. |

BURISAL.

| | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| The <i>Kashipur Nibashi</i> ... (It was at first a monthly now a weekly journal.) | Babu Protap Chunder Mukherji. | Babu P. C. Mukherji ... | 1280 B. S. ... |
|---|----------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|

BEHAR.

| | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| The <i>Behar Herald</i> (to which is incorporated the <i>Indian Chronicle</i> .) | Behar Landholders' Asso- ciation. | Babu Gurus Prosad Sen, M.A., B.L., pleader of the Bankipur Bar, and Mr. K. N. Sen, Barrister. | September, 1874 ... 20 vols. |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|

LUCKNOW.

| | | | |
|--|--------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| The <i>Advocate</i> ... (It was originally a weekly paper, but from April 1894, when the <i>Allaha- bad Union</i> was amal- gamated with it, the paper became a bi-weekly.) | Gunga Prosad Varma, Esq. | G. P. Varma, Esq., with a joint-editor and sub- editor. | February, 1888 ... 8 vols. |
|--|--------------------------|---|-------------------------------|

| Name of the News-papers. | Name of the Proprietors. | Name of the Editors. | Date of its publication. | No. of the volumes up to the year 1895. |
|---|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| SIND. | | | | |
| The <i>Sind Times</i> ... (It is a bi-weekly paper published every Thursday and Sunday morning.) | The <i>Sind Gazette</i> and Commercial Press Co., Ltd. | Khem Chand Rahumul, Esq. | April, 1884 ... | 11 vols. |
| BOMBAY. | | | | |
| The <i>Kaiser-i-Hind</i> ... (It is an Anglo-Guzrati paper, published every Sunday morning. It contains 9 to 12 columns of English matter, treating of the most burning Imperial, Provincial, and local problems of the day. It has a circulation all over India. It is a political organ edited by one of the best Indian politicians.) | Framji, C. Mehta, Esq. | F. C. Mehta Esq. ... | 1st January, 1882 | 14 vols. |

Jam-i-Jamshed ... (The *Jam-i-Jamshed*, writes the editor, has no distinct view. Socially it is the most popular paper (daily) in the Bombay Presidency. Its daily circulation is 2,500. It does not advocate the extreme radical side, or the extreme orthodox, but propounds moderation. It is to be found in every household amongst the Parsees. It stands very high in Government estimation. Notices of His Excellency the Governor's memento are sent only to this paper. The editor, Mr. Marzban has a history of his own, His grandfather Mr. Furdunji Marzban was the Indian Caxton. He first cut the native type in India, a century ago. Before that, the papers were lithographed. Mr. Marzban's father was the proprietor of the once famous *Rast Gofiar* which property is still in the hands of the family. The present Mr.

Jehangir, B. Marzban, Esq.

J. B. Marzban, Esq.

1st of January.
1831.

64 vols.

| Name of the News-papers. | Name of the Proprietors. | Name of the Editors. | Date of its publication. | Number of volumes up to the year 1895. |
|---|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------|--|
| <p>Marzban is the only member in the family who has stuck to journalism. He is a distinguished "East Scholar", a delegate of the Parsee Chief Matrimonial Court, and a trustee of the Parsee Punchayet of Sir Jamsetji Jijibhoy Charities.")</p> | | | | |
| <p>The <i>Subodhi Patrika</i></p> <p>(It is the organ of the Bombay Prarthana Somaj and carries on "war" against orthodoxy. It is in fact, says the editor, a model paper printed in English and Maharatta; the only of its kind in the whole of the Bombay Presidency.)</p> | <p>Bombay Prarthana Somaj.</p> | <p>Past editors were Messrs. N. M. Parmanund, and N. G. Clundravarkar. Its present editors are Messrs. W. G. Bhandarkar, and Dr. Madgamkai.</p> | <p>1st May, 1873...</p> | <p>22 vols.</p> |

THE TABLE OF THE CALCUTTA JOURNALS.

| | | | |
|--|--|--|-----------------------------|
| <p>The <i>Amrita Bazar Patrika</i> ... (It originally appeared as a Bengali hebdomadal in 1868, after the name of the illustrious mother of these immortal Ghose brothers, became an English hebdomadal on the very day Lord Lytton's Vernacular Press Act was passed, and became a daily in 1891.)</p> | <p>Babu Sishir Kumar Ghose and his brothers.</p> | <p>Babu Sishir Kumar Ghose and his brother Babu Muty Lal Ghose, and his brother-in-Law Babu Kishori Mohun Sirkar, M.A., B.L., pleader of the High Court, and a staff of other writers.</p> | <p>1868</p> <p>28 vols.</p> |
| <p>The <i>Indian Mirror</i> ... (First established by Mr. Manohun Ghose, Barrister-at-Law in 1861, and appeared as a fortnightly paper. It then passed into the hands of Babu Keshub Chunder Sen and his brother Babu Kristo Behury Sen, Babu Norendro Nath Sen, Babu and Protap Chunder Mozumdar. It was conducted with great ability by these renowned men as weekly, till 1870 when it became a diurnal,</p> | <p>Babu N. N. Sen ...</p> | <p>Babu N. N. Sen ...</p> | <p>1861</p> <p>44 vols.</p> |

| Name of the news-papers. | Name of the Proprietors. | Name of the Editors. | Date of its publication. | Number of volumes up to the year 1895. |
|---|--|----------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <p>with Babu Norendro Nath Sen as the sole proprietor and editor. It is now being conducted by him with a staff of writers including the author of this book.)</p> | | | | |
| <p><i>The Calcutta Statesman</i> ... (It was originally established in 1876 by Mr. Robert Knight. When this veteran journalist went to England in 1880 to conduct the <i>London Statesman</i>, Mr. William Riach edited the paper. It is now being edited by Messrs. Paul Knight and his brother Robert Knight with a staff of writers.</p> | <p>Mr. Robert Knight was its proprietor originally. It was afterwards mortgaged to the late Kumar Indra Chunder Singh of Paikpara. We do not whose property it is now.</p> | Mr. Paul Knight ... | 1876 | 20 vols. |

42 vols,

1853

Babu Rajkumar Sar-
badhikari.

34 vols.

1862

Babu S. N. Bannerji

The Trustees. (Vide
my biography of K.
D. Pal published in
1886.)

Babu S. N. Bannerji

The Hindoo Patriot ...

(Was originally established in 1853 by Babu Grish Chunder Ghose and his brothers, then taken up by Babu Hurish Chunder Mukherji on whose death in 1861, Dr. Sumbhu Chunder Mukherji remained in temporary charge of it till November, 1861, when Babu K. D. Pal became its editor. On his death in 1884, Babu Raj Kumar Surbadhikary succeeded him. In 1894 the paper became a daily.)

The Bengali ...

(It was originally established in 1862 by Babu Grish Chunder Ghose on whose death in 1869 it was conducted by Babu Bacharam Chatterji and others till 1879 when the paper was purchased by Babu S. N. Bannerji.

| Name of the News-papers. | Name of the Proprietors. | Name of the Editors. | Date of its publication. | Number of volumes up to the year 1895. |
|--|--|----------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <i>The Indian Nation</i> ... (It was established by Mr. N. N. Ghose, Barrister-at-Law in 1883.) | Mr. N. N. Ghose ... | Mr. N. N. Ghose ... | | 13 |
| <i>Hope</i> ... (It was established by Babu Amrita Lal Roy in) | Babu A. L. Roy ... | Babu A. L. Roy ... | 1888 | |
| <i>Reis and Rayyet</i> ... (It was founded by Dr. Sumbhu Chunder Mukherji in 1882.) | It is now being conducted since the death of the editor in 1894 by Babus Kishori Mohun Gangooly, translator of the Mahabharat, and Bsbu Jogesh Chunder Dutt. | | | |

For want of space we cannot notice the other journals.

THE NAMES OF BENGALI JOURNALS IN 1873.

We take the following from the *Hindoo Patriot* of September 29, 1873.

“We are glad to note that the number of vernacular papers in Bengali is increasing. The Government Translator in his report for the week ending the 20th September notices no less than 38 papers. We append the following list:—

| | | | |
|----------------------|-----|-----|--------------------------|
| Pallipari Darshan | ... | ... | Chatmohar, Pubna |
| Tumluk Patrika | ... | ... | Calcutta |
| Grambasi | ... | ... | Ranaghat |
| Mohapap Balya Bibaha | ... | ... | Dacca |
| Gram Dut | ... | ... | Ponabalia, Burrisal |
| Abala Bandhub | ... | ... | Calcutta |
| Chus-me-elem | ... | ... | Patna |
| Akhbar-ul-Akbiar | ... | ... | Mozufferpore |
| Assam Mihir | ... | ... | Gowhatti, Assam |
| Moorshedabad Patrika | ... | ... | Berhampore |
| Bala Ranjika | ... | ... | Gopalpore, Burr!sal |
| Saptahik Paridarshak | ... | ... | Calcutta |
| Sahachar | ... | ... | Ditto |
| Hitsadhini | ... | ... | Burrisal |
| Gyan Bikashini | ... | ... | Chatmohar, Pubna |
| Bishwa Dut | ... | ... | Kalighat, Calcutta |
| Sulava Shamachar | ... | ... | Calcutta |
| Hindu Ranjika | ... | ... | Beaulca, Rajshaye |
| Burrisal Bartabaha | ... | ... | Burrisal |
| Amrita Bazar Patrika | ... | ... | Calcutta |
| Rungpore Dik Prokash | ... | ... | Kakinia, Rungpore |
| Education Gazette | ... | ... | Hooghly |
| Jamjahanama | ... | ... | Calcutta |
| Bharat Sanskarak | ... | ... | Ditto |
| Saptahik Sungbad | ... | ... | Bhowanipore, Calcutta |

| | | | |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-------------------------------|
| Halishahar Patrika | ... | ... | Calcutta |
| Banga Bandhu | ... | ... | Dacca |
| Saptahik Shamachar | ... | ... | Calcutta |
| Urdu Guide | ... | ... | Ditto |
| Babu Darshan | ... | ... | Ditto |
| Grambarta Prakashika | ... | ... | Coomerkhally |
| Dacca Prakash | ... | ... | Dacca |
| Som Prakash | ... | ... | Changripota, 24-Pergunnahs |
| Bharut Bhritya | ... | ... | Calcutta |
| Doorbeen | ... | ... | Ditto |
| Chandrika | ... | ... | Ditto |
| Prabhakar | ... | ... | Ditto |
| Poornachundrodoy | ... | ... | Ditto |

Out of these 38 journals, very few are now still surviving, most of them, as is naturally the case with ephemeral journals, having died of inanition. The *Sulava Samachar* started by the late lamented Babu Keshub Chunder Sen, since his return from England, and conducted most ably by the progressive Brahmos of his school, inaugurated a new era in vernacular journalism in Bengal. It was a pice paper largely read and supported by the public. After a brilliant and useful career extending over a few years the paper ceased to exist. The *Hindu Runjika* the *Rungpur Dik Prakash*, the *Dacca Prokash*, the *Shome Prokash*, the *Prabhakhur*, and the *Purnachundrodoy* are the only papers that still now survive. The *Sungbad Prabhakar* and the *Sungbad Purnachundrodoy*, are the oldest Bengali daily journals now extant.

From an interesting historical sketch of the *Shungbad Probhakur* newspaper, written by its late Editor Babu Ishur Chunder Gupta, in 1855, it appears that the *Sungbad Purnachundrodoy* is junior to *Provaakur* by four years.

The history of the origin of the *Sungbad Probhakur* newspaper is thus related in the sketch, alluded to above:—"On Friday the 10th Magh of 1537 (1830 A. D.) the *Sungbad Prbhakur* was first fushed into existence, through the munificent liberality of Babu the late Jogendra Mohun Tagore, great grandson of Babu

Gopi Mohun Tagore of Pathuriaghatta. It became a tri-weekly paper from the 27th Srabun, 1243, and three years afterwards it became a daily journal."

The history of the *Sungbad Purnachundrodoy* is thus described :—"In 1242, the *Sungbad Purnachundrodoy* became a fortnightly paper with the pecuniary help of Babus Adoita Chunder Addy and Uday Chunder Addy. Its first Editor was Babu Hurro Chunder Bannerji, who conducted the paper for two years, after which he took the service under Government as a teacher of the Dacca College. The paper was then edited by Babu Uday Chunder Addy, who was afterwards appointed a Superintendent of the Abkari Department in Bengal. On his vacating the editorial chair for the above reason, Babu Adoita Chunder Addy took its editorial management."

The history of the *Shome Prokash* Bengali hebdomadal is no less interesting than those of the above papers. Immediately after the suppression of the Sepoy Mutiny, the late Venerable Pundit Ishur Chunder Vidyasagar and his friend Babu Dwarkanath Bidya Bhushun, a Professor of the Sanskrit College, first conceived the idea of bringing out a first-class Bengali hebdomadal. It is said that some of the first issues of this paper was edited by Vidyasagar himself, and the paper was afterwards made over to Babu Dwarka Nath Bidya Bhushun, who conducted it for several years with great ability. His mantle has now fallen on his worthy son, Babu Koilash Chunder Bidya Bhushun, M. A. It was formerly read by civilians and other Europeans for the sake of acquiring a knowledge of the Bengali language.

The *Grambarta Prakashika* edited by Babu Hurry Nath Mozumdar, a patriotic gentleman of Kumarkhali in the district of Nuddea, was contemporaneous with the *Shome Prokash*, and did great service in ventilating the grievances of the Indigo ryots of Pubna and Nuddea. Babu Hurry Nath once told us that, sometime he wrote a series of articles against Babu Debendra Nath Tagore who possesses a large zemindary in Pubna and the neighbouring districts. Babu Debendra Nath Tagore thereupon tried to silence him by offer of pecuniary grants which he refused to take.

The appearance of the Bengali Monthly Magazine called the *Bunga Darsan*, the *Cornhill* of Bengal, in 1872, marked a new era in our native journalism. It was ably edited by that that *Facile princeps*, the late novelist Babu Bumkim Chunder Chatterji, and his brother Babu Sunjib Chunder Chatterji. The latter wrote in this Magazine a masterly article on pseudo Raja Protap Chand, which exhaustively dealt with all the intricate historical aspects of that interesting Tichborne case of Burdwan. The Magazine will be ever remembered for the best essays that the late learned scholar Babu Tara Prosad Chatterji wrote on Positivism.

MR. JAMES HUTTON, EDITOR OF THE *ENGLISHMAN*.

The following extract appeared in the *Hindoo Patriot* of October 13, 1873:—

A correspondent thus gives the history of Mr. Hutton's connection with the *Englishman*:—

“When first asked to go out to India, he agreed to do so only on the distinct condition that he was to be left unfettered by anything that might have been written by his predecessors. This stipulation was absolutely necessary, because, as editor of *Allen's Indian Mail* at the period of the mutiny he had warmly denounced the truculent articles which at that time disgraced the columns of the *Englishman*; and also because, as a writer in the *British Quarterly Review*, and as editor of the *Bengal Hurkura*, he had sided with the ryots against the planters, and had always declined to be the mouthpiece, of any particular class or section of the general community. I repeat that Mr. Hutton was left perfectly and entirely independent.”

Mr. James Hutton also edited with great ability a weekly paper called the *Leader*.

THE FIRST CASE OF PUNISHMENT OF AN INDIAN EDITOR UNDER THE PENAL CODE.

The *Friend of India* of August 6, 1863 notices the first case of prosecution of a newspaper for defamation thus:—

“On Saturday, Mr. Elenza Ter Arratoon, editor of the

Armenian paper *Philadelphus*, was sentenced to three months imprisonment and to pay a fine of Rs. 500, for having published in its columns a letter reflecting on the moral character of Mr. J. A. Seth, editor of the rival *East India Journal*.

BABU AJUDHIANATH PAKRASSI.

"We are exceedingly sorry to notice the death of Babu Ajudianath Pakrassi, late Minister of the Calcutta Brahmo Somaj. The late murder of his brother, somewhere at Chagdah under most suspicious circumstances, and the alienation of Babu Debendranath Tagore's sympathy from him, which resulted in his resignation of his seat at the Somaj, prayed upon his mind keenly, while his body was undermined by a protracted attack of dysentery. Babu Ajudhianath was a most worthy man. He was an effective Bengali writer and speaker. He first came to public notice by his literary labours in connection with the late Babu Kaliprosunno Sing's translation of the *Mahavaratha*. His sermons were always listened to with attention and respect. He edited with great ability the *Tuttwabodhini Patrika* for several years. In private life he was simple and unassuming. In him the Brahmo Somaj has lost an estimable and valuable member.—(H. P. 1873.)

THE STATE PROSECUTION OF THE BUNGABASHI IN 1891.

Before we state the facts of this *cause celebre*, we must premise by saying that it was in 1880, our esteemed friend and townsman Babu Gyanendra Lal Roy, M.A., B.L., (who is now a private tutor of a Ward under the Bengal Board of Revenue) and then a Professor of the Metropolitan Institution first brought out and edited this half-anna paper which has, be it said to its credit, produced a revolution, not only in popular cheap journalism, but also in the religious feelings of the Hindus of Bengal. Originally it was not so conservative as it is now. The first proprietors of this paper, so far as we know, were Babus Jogendro Nath Bose and Upendra Nath Singh under whose careful management the paper gradually rose to

eminence and achieved a great success. The well-known Bengali writers Babu Indra Nath Bannerji, a distinguished pleader of the Burdwan Bar, and Babu Krishna Chunder Bannerji were its chief editorial helpsmen, assisted by a staff of outside contributors whose literary fame had been long established before the paper came into existence. At the head of these contributors paid or unpaid, stood that famous Bengali *litterateur*,—we mean Babu Akshaya Chunder Sirkar, B.L., of Chinsurah, and the late editor of the defunct *Shadharani* newspaper. Within a few years the paper became a power in the realm, under the guidance of these literary men, as a conservative organ of the Hindus of Bengal.

It was in 1891, the famous "Age of Consent Act" was passed by Lord Lansdowne's Government, and the *Bungabashi* as a leading conservative journal, protested against this Act with all its might, and wrote a series of articles under the headings "our condition," "An outspoken policy is the best for uncivilized persons," "The most important and the first idea of the uncivilized Hindu," "What will the end be," and "Universal Death is certain" and others. (Vide the *Englishman* of August 10, 1891.) Exasperated by these writings, Lord Lansdowne and Sir Charles Elliott sanctioned the prosecution of Babu Jogendra Nath Bose, proprietor, Babu Brajaraj Bannerji, manager, Babu Krishna Chunder Bannerji, editor, and Arunodoy Roy, printer and publisher of the paper. On the 7th of August, Mr. Pugh, the standing counsel, applied for warrants against these gentlemen, under sections 124A and 500 of the Indian Penal Code, but Mr. Handley, the Chief Presidency Magistrate issued the warrants under section 124A only. Search warrant was next asked for and granted. Next day, the defendants appeared with Mr. Hill and Mr. Lal Mohun Ghose, Barristers-at-Law. Application for bail was refused. On the 11th of August, the defendants were committed to the Sessions. Mr. Hill then applied on

behalf of the defendants to the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Beverley for bail which was granted, on executing a bond for Rs. 10,000 and finding two sureties of Rs. 10,000 each. In this hideous crisis, we must candidly say, the so-called English educated friends of the native press of Bengal, including the millionaires of Calcutta shook like aspen leaves to stand bail for these defendants, and at last the following gentlemen, *viz.*, the well-known learned (not in the English language though) Kaviraj Gunga Prosad Sen of Koomertooley, and his grandson, Bejoy Krishna Sen stood bail for the proprietor, Babu Gunga Dhur Bannerji, M.A., B.L., a well-known Bengali author, and Babu Surjya Kant Roy Chowdhury for the editor, Kabiraj Gunga Prosad Sen and Jadu Nath Bannerji for the manager, and Babu Jogesh Chunder Bannerji, a well-known patriotic gentleman of Krishnaghur, and a book-seller, and Babu Jadu Nath Sanyal for the printer.

The case was then heard by Sir Comer Petheran, the Chief Justice himself, and Mr. Jackson, Barrister-at-Law, ably argued it on behalf of the defendants. After a protracted trial, the Jury brought in a verdict in which they were not unanimous. The Chief Justice thereupon refused to accept their verdict and with a very commendable judicial insight, ordered a retrial of the case by a fresh jury at the next Sessions. In the meantime, some of the members of the native Press with the exception of the editors of the *Indian Mirror* and *Reis and Rayyet* formed a Press Association and induced the Government to withdraw the case against the defendants on their tendering an apology to it. The case was thereupon withdrawn in September of that year.

In the midst of this case, at the rising of the High Court on the 13th of August, Mr. Pugh, the Standing Counsel applied to the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Beverley, for a rule calling on Babu Norendro Nath Sen, editor of the *Indian*

Mirror, to show cause why he should not be punished for contempt of Court. This alleged contempt was the publication, in the *Indian Mirror* of Wednesday, of a leading article, of which the material parts were as follows:—

“The prorogation of Parliament has apparently left the Government of India in the full exercise and enjoyment of irresponsible power, and it seems to be making the most of the opportunity. It must be said that the Government has been shewing unusual vigour and strength; not the strength that will commend itself to the approval of all right-thinking men, but the strength, that is a mere display of rude physical force. The first feat of strength, or more correctly speaking, of force in the arena has been, of course, the prosecution of the *Bungabashi* newspaper on a charge of preaching sedition.”

The article also referred to the Munipur affair, and wrote further on the *Bungabashi* case thus:—

“It is for a Judge and Jury to decide, if the *Bungabashi* really preached sedition, while the controversy on the Age of Consent Bill was at its height. We were heartily opposed to that journal, and were altogether divided in the issues, raised by the Age of Consent Bill controversy. But the same inflexible feeling, which made us range against the *Bungabashi*, and on the side of the Government, the same feeling, we say, now prompts us to declare unequivocally that the present action of the Government in prosecuting the *Bungabashi* has every appearance of an attempt to stifle the voice of Indian public criticism.”

Mr. Mano Mohun Ghose, the general friend and protector of the native press of Bengal thereupon appeared on behalf of Babu Norendro Nath Sen and denied that there was any thing in the article which amounted in the slightest degree to contempt of Court.

The sedate, calm and conscientious Chief Justice settled this dispute by requiring the Editor not to write any thing on the case till it was finished.

It was in this way the attempt of the Government of Sir Charles Elliott and Lord Lansdowne to terrorize the *Indian Mirror* was thus frustrated.

THE DEFAMATION CASE AGAINST THE *BUNGANIBASHI*.

In July 1891, a defamation case brought by Babus Dwarka Nath Ganguly, Shiva Nath Sastri and another gentleman against its proprietor Babu Mohesh Chunder Pal, and its printer was decided by the Presidency Magistrate. The proprietor was sentenced to six months' simple imprisonment and fine of Rs. 100, the publisher to 3 months' and Rs. 50, and the printer to Rs. 50 only.—(R. R., July 18, 1891.)

DR. DAVID BOYES SMITH, AS EDITOR OF THE *MUSOORIE HILLS*.

Dr. Sumbhu Chunder Mukherji, the late editor of *Reis and Rayyet* noticed the death of this distinguished doctor editor of the *Musoorie Hills* in 1889.

“He was an Assistant-Surgeon in charge of the Base Hospital at Delhi. The publication by him of some papers on sanitary statistics early brought him to the notice of the N. W. P. Government and led to his appointment at Musoorie. Here in 1862, he started we (the editor of *Reis and Rayyet*) believe, at any rate edited with credit, a sturdy political weekly called the *Hills*. It was at this time the learned Doctor Sumbhu Chunder Mukherji edited the *Samachar Hindusthani*, as the English organ of the Talookdars of Oudh. Dr. Boyes Smith early discerned the literary capacity of the native editor and complimented him in his journal. After a short time, as is naturally the case, these two editors one of Mussoorie, and the other of Lucknow “fell out and came to blows—with printer’s ink.” But not for a moment was there the least loss of mutual respect, not an insolent or ungenerous expression passed.

Dr. David Boyes Smith next “began” the *Indian Medical Gazette*. He was then brought to Bengal as the first Sanitary Commissioner. He then became successively Civil Surgeon of Patna, of Howrah, and again of Dacca. He officiated as principal of the Medical College and Professor of Medicine while Dr. Chevers was on leave, obtaining the permanent

appointment on Dr. Chever's retirement. In this capacity he had a quarrel with Sir Ashley Eden, the then Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal on the question of hospital expenditure and resigned his appointment. He then set up as a general practitioner in Calcutta. On his retirement from the Indian Medical Service he was offered the Professorship of Netley.—(Vide *Reis and Rayyet* of July 13, 1882.)

THE SUPPRESSION OF THE *PRAJA BUNDHU* NEWSPAPER IN 1889.

The paper published from the Vyas Press from Chundernagur was suppressed by the Government of Lord Lansdowne with a notification issued on the 26th October, 1889. Since the dark days of the Sepoy Mutiny of 1857, such suppressive act has been almost rare in the history of Indian journalism. The *Praja Bundhu* was charged with having written the following articles that were the immediate cause of its suppression:—

- (1) that of July 12th on "the Englishman's crooked policy";
- (2) that of the 23rd August, on the Famine fund;
- (3) those of the 29th August—one headed "Brother why seek to have the Raj any more" and the other on Cashmere affairs;
- (4) that of the 9th September on Cashmere;
- (5) that of the 13th September, also on Cashmere;
- (6) that of the 20th September, 1889, on "Englishmen, the benefactor of India."

On the appearance of the first article, the Bengal Government reported, as requested by the Supreme Government, that its late editor, Babu Ashu Tosh Sen, was not long ago sentenced by the French Courts to three months' imprisonment and fine for publishing a defamatory article about a priest, and his appeal was rejected. On the expiry of h i

term of imprisonment Babu Ashu Tosh Sen was again taken on the staff of the *Praja Bondhu*. The nominal editor during several months past, in which interval the above articles appeared, was reported to be one Babu Nirode Chunder Bannerji who was a cousin of Babu Tinkury Bannerji, the Managing Proprietor, who was a clerk in the office of the Director of Public Instruction, Bengal. Had the *Proja Bondhu* been published within British India, the editor and publisher would have been indicted under the I. P. C. But the paper was issued from the French Chundernaggur and was therefore not amenable to the jurisdiction of British Courts.

The Supreme Government held Babu Tinkury Bannerji responsible as a Government educational clerk for these articles and found him guilty of contravening the standing orders as contained in the Resolution No. 19—1134, dated 8th July 1875. He was therefore dismissed from the Government Service. The circulation of the paper was stopped in British India under section 19 of the Sea Customs Act, 1878, and section 60A of the Indian Post Office Act XIV of 1866.

THE OFFICIAL SECRETS ACT.

On the 26th August, 1889, Lord Lansdowne and his councillors placed this Act (52 and 53 Victoria, chapter 53.) on the Indian Statute Book, as the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* published a confidential Foreign Office document touching the state of the Cashmere frontier. The two obnoxious Acts, viz., the Vernacular Press Act, and the Official Secrets Act owe their origin to the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, the pride of native journalism in India.

THE LATE LAMENTED MR. ROBERT KNIGHT AND MR. KARSONDAS MADHUDAS.

An esteemed friend of the Bombay Presidency wrote to us privately, in answer to our query how the people

of Bombay honoured this Bayard of Indian journalists when he left that presidency in 1864. It was in May 1864 the Hindus of Bombay vied with the Parsees in doing honour to this great journalist. "Among the Hindus that took part" in this demonstration was that patriotic millionaire of Bombay—we mean Mr. Karsondas Madhudas who in his days of prosperity "helped many a good cause with a liberal hand." The late lamented Babu Keshub Chunder Sen knew Mr. Karsondas Madhudas very well. "It is this very gentleman," says our correspondent, whose name we suppress purposely, "that gave large pecuniary help to those early pioneers of social reform" in Bombay, notably among them Mr. Karsondas Mulji of the Maharajah Libel case fame who was sent to England at the expense of Mr. Karsondas Madhudas. Sir Bartle Frere while welcoming him as a fellow of the Bombay University at the convocation of 1865, spoke of him in the following terms:—

"Mr. Karsondas Madhudas has, by a long, and consistent course of self-sacrifice, inseparably connected his name with the cause of truth, enlightenment, and civilization in India. I feel assured that the spirit which has actuated him will give a life and vigour to the action of the University, and to its connexion with a most important section of the Hindu community, which cannot but produce important results."

It was this patriotic Hindu of Bombay who gave "a very big sum" to Mr. Knight in recognition of the valuable services he had rendered to the cause of the country. "Besides this sum which was given privately," he also subscribed to the fund with many other Hindu gentlemen.

The following letter written by Mr. Knight to Mr. Karsondas will be now read with great interest by our readers:—

Times of India :

Bombay, 2nd April, 1864.

MY DEAR KARSONDAS,

Your munificence really distresses me. I do not know what I have done to deserve such returns. I have simply striven to be *just*, and you pay me for it thus.

However, I accept your singular mark of regard with the condition attached to it. I shall hand it over to my wife and children, and I must take care to introduce them to you before we leave.

I will send the cheque for Rs. 1,500 to the Bank as you direct. I hope to return to India next year or the year after, but whether I do or not, I shall remember the singular friendship you have evinced for.

Yours very sincerely,

(Sd.) R. KNIGHT.

THE HISTORY OF THE *MADRAS STANDARD*, ONE OF THE BEST DAILY PAPERS OF MADRAS.

We are indebted for the following interesting history of this journal to its learned editor, G. Paramaswaram Pillay B. A., Esq. He thus writes to us:—

“One Mr. C. M. Pereyra, an Eurasian established the *Price Current Press* in 1841, and soon afterwards he thought that it would be of advantage to merchants, if he published some mercantile news. With this view he started the *Commercial Gazette*, of demy four pages, as a hebdomadal. After sometime it was thought that it would be more acceptable if general news could be published, and the proprietor changed the name of the paper into the *Madras Standard and the Commercial Gazette*. It was then managed by Mr. H. A. Pereyra, son of Mr. C. M. Pereyra. Its first editor was Mr. Jeremiah Connor. A few years hence it ceased to be the *Commercial Gazette*, and the words “*Commercial Gazette*” were dropped. Thereafter, it was known as the *Madras Standard* issued tri-weekly and recognized as the organ of the Eurasian Community. It was during this time, Mr. C. M. Pereyra having died, his son Mr. H. A. Pereyra became its sole proprietor. He improved the paper and the press, and the following gentlemen were its editors, viz, Mr. Goombes, Mr. Thompson, Mr. H. French, Mr. M. French, M. A. C. Connor, Mr. Lambert, and Mr. Walton.

About ten years ago, Mr. H. A. Pereyra having died, his wife Mrs. Beatrice Pereyra became its proprietress, her husband's half-brother the manager, and Mr. Cornelius, the editor. After the lapse of four or five years, Cornelius was succeeded by Dr. Arthur Kees as editor. Under the management of Mr. J. L. Pereyra the paper did not thrive, and the number of its constituents gradually decreased. In May, 1892, the manager considering the decaying condition of his paper requested Mr. G. Paramaswaram Pillay, Esq., B.A., who was then contributing to its columns, though employed in the Madras High Court, to take up the editorship. He agreed to this proposal and found that notwithstanding all he did as the editor, the paper remained stationary in circulation. He of course, attributed this want of success to bad management. He therefore suggested to Mrs. Pereyra that the paper should be leased to him, and she agreed. In November, 1893, it was so leased, and from that date it became the organ of the educated natives of the country. The paper had a circulation of only 700 copies in October, 1893. But by introducing changes after changes, and novelties after novelties, the paper became universally popular. Taking advantage of the last National Congress, Mr. G. Paramaswaram Pillay converted the paper into a daily. During the Congress thousands of copies of the paper were sold. Since then its circulation has been steadily increasing, and its present circulation is about 2,600 copies, or more than three times the number about 18 months ago."

It is now one of the best conducted daily papers of Madras of which the writer of this book is one of its special "Correspondents from Calcutta."

MISCELLANEOUS REMINISCENCES AND ANECDOTES OF GREAT MEN OF INDIA.

CHAPTER V.

FOR want of space, we beg to close this volume with a few miscellaneous anecdotes of great men of India, and hope to resume the work in the third volume of this book, provided the reading public of India encourage us with their kind patronage.

HENRY LOUIS VIVIAN DEROZIO.

(BORN 1809—DIED 1831.)

Every student of the educational history of Bengal is aware of the vast moral influence which this great Eurasian educationist imparted to the first scholars of the Hindu College whose reminiscences we have sketched in these two volumes. But it is not generally known in what capacity Mr. Henry Louis Vivian Derozio achieved this wonderful success. For the information of our readers we, therefore, mention the fact that it was in the year 1827 a Portuguese gentleman named Mr. D'Anselme was the Head-master of the Hindu College, Mr. George Mollis, an East Indian was the second, Mr. Hallifax the third, while Mr. Derozio was the fourth teacher. In this capacity he, by his moral teachings and influence, produced a revolution in the minds of his pupils of whom the Rev. K. M. Banerji and Babu Ramtonu Lahiri who is still living were par excellent moral men of Bengal. The October number of the *Oriental Magazine* of 1843 contained his

memoir with an excellent portrait. We have not yet been able to find out that number, but from the *Bengal Hurkura* of 1843, it appears that the writer of the Memoir described him thus:—"In his dress he went to the extreme of foppery. He was like a woman fond of gold and his person was adorned with a goodly quantity of it." For a more detailed description of this great man, the reader must peruse the book called "The East Indian Worthies," edited by Mr. H. A. Stark B. A., and Mr. E. Walter Madge and published from the "Cambridge Steam Printing Works" in 1892.

THE ORIGIN OF THE INDIAN PENAL CODE, AND SIR BARNES PEACOCK AS ITS AUTHOR.

The *Indian Observer* in its issue of June 28th, 1873, thus wrote on the subject :—

"On the second day of May, 1837, when Lord Auckland was Governor-General, the Indian Law Commission who drew up what was then called the Penal Code presented their Report and a copy of the Code. This Commission consisted of the following gentlemen :—Messrs. T. B. Macaulay, J. M. MacLeod, G. W. Anderson, and F. Millett, and the Code which was then presented consisted of twenty-six chapters, and 488 sections. As we have said above, the original Code was presented to Lord Auckland on the 2nd of May, 1837. It was then printed and carefully revised by the Commission, who again reported on it on the 14th October, 1837. This first edition, as it was, of the Penal Code was not considered a success. The Code was afterwards recast by Mr. Drinkwater Bethune who subsequently held the office of Legislative Councillor, but this second edition was not more successful than the first, and "Macaulay's Code" was relegated to oblivion and the shelves of our public libraries for the space of nearly 20 years.

After the formation of the new Legislative Council in 1853, the codification of our criminal law again excited attention, and on the 20th of May, 1854, the President of the Council stated that a letter had been received from the Court of Directors desiring to be informed of the progress made towards the completion of the Penal Code. During the five following years the "Proceedings of the Council" were full of communications from the Provincial Governments, from the various departments of the State, petitions from Associations and suggestions from private persons respecting the proposed code. But it was not until the year 1860, that the whole Council resolved itself into a committee to consider the Code, section by section. We need not remind our readers of this famous Council or that Mr. Peacock was its legal member. The year 1860 was principally taken up with the consideration and enactment of the present Penal Code, and on the 6th of October, 1860, it was read a third time, and passed principally by the exertions of the legal member.

How much of this work Mr. Peacock effected is heartily acknowledged by Mr. (now Sir Cecil) Beadon, in the closing speech he made on the subject in Council. "He could not conclude without expressing his deep sense of the obligation which the Government and the country owed to the honourable and learned Vice-President, through whose able and untiring exertions, the Code had at last been brought into a state in which *it could be safely adopted as the Universal law of India*. Every one in short must admit, and especially the members of the Council, that without his assistance it would have been impossible to pass this Bill." Sir Bartle Frere added that the Vice-President "put the finishing stroke."

The changes and alterations which were made during the year 1860 alone were numerous, and amounted to a re-drafting of the whole Code. Lord Macaulay, as a Jurist may have indicated the direction, but Sir Barnes Peacock was the prac-

tical statesman who gave to India what Sir Cecil Beadon justly called, "a great monument of legislative ability."

BHARUT CHUNDER ROY, THE POET.

We take the following sketch of his life from the *Indian Observer* of December 4, 1872:—

"This versatile writer, esteemed by his countrymen as one of the best, if not the best poet in their language, was born in 1711 at Panduah a town in the Hugly District, being the youngest of four sons of a respectable Brahmin Zemindar, Norendra Narain Roy. His family name was Mukherji, but the title of Roy, or even Rajah was given to him on account of his eminent merits and influence. He unfortunately quarrelled with the mother of the Rajah of Burdwan, Kirti Chunder Roy, and the dowager Rani instigated her son to dispossess him of his estates and forts. Norendra was reduced to poverty. Young Bharut, however, was not dismayed by this change in his fortunes, he took refuge with an uncle, sat himself to study Sanskrit, which he mastered by the early age of fourteen. He then acquired Persian, and, by the time he was eighteen, had won himself a reputation as a learned man and a poet. We need not follow him in the adventures of his early career, but will go on to the time when, about the year 1735, he was introduced to the notice of the Mæcenas of Bengal, Rajah Krishna Chunder of (Krishnaghur) by his friend Indra Narain Pal Chowdry, Dewan of the French Settlement at Chundernagore.

At the Court of this enlightened prince Bharut passed the remainder of his life. He was a sort of poet-laureate, and besides his longer poems, presented to the Rajah almost daily some little epigram. His principal work is the "Annada Mangal," a long poem in honour of Kali, the patron goddess of the Nuddea Raj Family.

HIS HIGHNESS THE LATE NAWAB NAZIM FURREDOON JAH.

He was born in October 1829. His Highness the Nawab Furredoon Jah succeeded his father, His Highness the Nawab Humayoon Jah in December 1838 at the 10th year of his age. His full name and titles were:—

Mutisum-ul-Mulk Mohsin-ud-Dowlah Furredoon Jah Nawab Syud Mansoor Ali Khan Bahadur, Nusrat Jung, Nawab

Nazim and Subadar of Bengal, Behar and Orissa. His succession to the musnud was proclaimed by Government on the 19th December 1838. He was educated at home in English as well as in the Oriental languages, *i. e.* Urdu, Persian, and Arabic under the supervision of Government. General Showers was his private tutor and guardian, and Moulvi Abub Kasim and others were his teachers in the Oriental languages. Under the able instruction of these eminent teachers His Highness acquired a remarkable command over the English tongue, and a great proficiency in English History and Oriental literature. Being the fifth in lineal descent from Mir Jaffar, he was the 14th Subadar of Bengal from Murshed Kuli Khan, and unfortunately the last who ever held that dignity.

He went to England in February 1869 and was received both in France and England with great honor by the Emperor Napoleon III, and by Her Gracious Majesty the Queen Empress. After a stay of twelve years in England His Highness returned to India in 1881, and breathed his last in the bosom of his family at Murshidabad on the 5th November 1884.

While in England, His Highness retired from public life in favor of his eldest son and successor, His Highness the present Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad in November, 1880.

His Highness excelled in all manly exercises, and was a keen sportsman. He was such an excellent swordsman that on one occasion he cut 32 pieces of goat-bone placed one upon the other with one stroke of his sword. He was a man of large heart, and great sympathies. He felt and cared for others as befitted his high exalted rank. When any of his servants happened to be ill, he used personally to enquire after their health and to arrange for their medicine and diet.

As the first premier nobleman of Bengal it was, as a matter of course, not so easy to obtain access to him, but once in his presence you were perfectly at home, so good and affable he was and so anxious to please every body that came to him. In 1884 when he was temporarily residing at the Palace of Murshidabad, a native gentleman in the Subordinate Executive Service came to see him. His Highness was sitting on the floor, but asked the gentleman to take his seat in a chair which he had purposely set for him. The gentleman said "Your Highness" I could not sit in a chair while your Highness was sitting on the floor." Never mind, my dear Sir, said His Highness, you are dressed in coat and pantaloons, and it would be uncomfortable for you to sit on the floor, and I therefore give you my permission to sit in the chair. Of course the gentleman could not possibly do so in the presence of His Highness and took his seat near him on the floor though of course in a stiff and evidently uncomfortable manner. On another occasion when His Highness' own Private Secretary was away, his son the Nawab Bahadur's Private Secretary was in attendance upon him. One day the latter was reading to him the letters which had come by post in the morning. After reading a few letters he handed over one letter to His Highness. The Nawab Nazim thereupon asked, "Why do you give me this letter." The Private Secretary made his obeisance and replied, "your Highness, this letter is marked confidential on the cover and so I could not open it." On hearing this His Highness smiled and most generously said, "You are the Private Secretary to my son. If he could have confidence in you why do you think I couldnt have as much in you." To such an observation as that the Private Secretary could only bow down his head and say in reply, "God bless your Highness. I am your Highness' bounden servant now and for ever."

For full particulars of his father's life, we beg to refer our readers to pages 53-54 of this volume.

HIS HIGHNESS AMIR-UL-OMRAH, G.C.I.E., THE NAWAB BAHADUR OF MURSHIDABAD.

His Highness Amir-ul-Omrah, G.C.I.E., the Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad was born on the 25th August 1846. He succeeded to the musnud of his ancestors in March 27, 1883. and since then administering the affairs of the Murshidabad House with very great credit and ability. For his high character, his liberal views, and his wide sympathies with the people, he is very popular with all sections of the community. He finished his education in England where he had been sent in March 1865 for that purpose by his late father His Highness the Nawab Nazim of Bengal under the charge of Col. Herbert. While in England he was presented to the Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress by the then Secretary of State for India. In August 1886 when the city of Murshidabad was inundated almost entirely, he went over all the inundated places with the sub-divisional officer of Lallbagh and the District Engineer of Murshidabad, and enquiring into the conditions of the suffering people. While he was returning the Sub-Divisional officer told him that if all that His Highness was doing for the relief of the people were reported to Government he might receive high distinctions at the hands of Government. To this remark His Highness replied that if his exertions succeeded in saving one single person, he would regard himself amply rewarded. Notwithstanding the warnings of his medical officers on this occasion, he gave refuge to the homeless people in his old Palace, the Imambarah and the new Palace and provided them and their cattle with food till they could shift for themselves. His medical advisers were afraid that if His Highness allowed such an influx of the people into the Killah, cholera or some such other diseases might break out within the precincts of the Palace, but His Highness said that even if the worse came to the worst he could not stand unmoved and see the people

suffer and perish for want of food and shelter. On one occasion some one told His Highness not to increase his establishment very much. His Highness thereupon replied "I am not Nawab for my ownself, but for providing for the helpless and the poor." One of the Agents to the Governor-General at Murshidabad once having remarked that His Highness' hair had turned grey too early, His Highness told him with a smile, "It is the constant thinking of political affairs which have now been pressing so heavily upon my head, which have turned my hair grey so prematurely."

His Highness was made a Knight Commander of the Indian Empire on the 16th February 1887 and a Knight Grand Commander on the 20th May 1890; besides being invested with the hereditary oriental title of Istisham-ul-Mulk Raisud-Doula, Amir-ul-Omrah Mahabut Jung which was conferred upon him on the 20th May, 1887. Considering his present limited resources, His Highness' charities must be said to be very extensive. Scarcely there arises a public question of interest in which he does not take part and scarcely there is done any work of public utility in Bengal which does not share his sympathy and help. We have seldom come across a Raes who is so highly distinguished for his toleration and wide sympathies with all classes of the people. The Hindus share his sympathies and charities equally with the Mahomedans. As a premier nobleman of Bengal, Behar and Orissa, His Highness the present Nawab is justly regarded as the head not only of the Mahomedans but of the Hindus as well.

TUKARAM, THE MAHARATTA POET.

The *Indian Observer* in a leading article under the heading "Vernacular literature of India," in its issue of Feb., 1, 1873, thus wrote of this great poet.

"A foremost place in Marathi literature is held by the sternly ascetic poet Tukaram, and his poems are selected for notice in this article not only on account of the important

position he occupies, but because the splendid edition of his works which has recently appeared in Bombay renders them peculiarly accessible to European readers.* From the Life of Tukaram prefixed to this edition we learn that by caste a petty retail shop-keeper, born at Dehu, a village near Puna, about the year 1608, a little more than a hundred years later than the great Bengal reformer Chaitanya, whose doctrines he imbibed and propagated. His ancestry appear to have been men of devout lives, and much given to religious meditation. Tukaram himself during the early part of his life followed his trades, but in the great famine which occurred when he was twenty years of age he failed in business and lost his favourite wife (he had two) and son. These misfortunes disgusted him with the world, and he turned a devotee, much against the wishes of his remaining wife, who seems to have had a hard time of it with her vagrant enthusiast of a husband. The rest of Tukaram's life was spent in meditation and devotion at the shrine of his favourite idol Vithoba. His creed is almost, if not quite, identical with that of Chaitanya, but he dwells more on the spiritual than on the sensual side of that doctrine, and there is little or nothing in his poems that offends the strictest morality. The form of worship which we have described under the name of "Kirtan" in Bengal prevails also in the name of "Bhajan," in the Maratha country, and our poet Tukoba as he is familiarly called, "was particularly great at these assemblies. His powers, as an *improvisatore* was considerable, and the whole of his poems, several hundred thousand in number, were uttered *impromptu* and taken down by his followers. It is on record that great Sivaji, the founder of the Maratha power, in the midst of his struggles with his enemies, and even

* A complete collection of the poems of Tukaram, the poet of the Maharashtra, edited by Vishnuram Parushram Shastri Pundit, under the patronage of the Bombay Government, Bombay 1869, Vol. I, published as yet.

at the most critical moments of his career, would steal away alone and in disguise from beleaguered fort, or midnight foray, to listen to the singing of Tukaram.

Tuka like all Vaisnavas had a contempt for forms and ceremonies, insisting upon the devotion of the heart and purity of thought as the only essentials of religion. Tukaram's influence upon his nation was very deep and lasting. His contemporary, the great Sivaji, was just then sowing the seeds of that intensely national spirit which led the Maharattas in the succeeding generation to aim at establishing one vast federation which should drive out the Mahomedan from the sacred soil of India, and give her sceptre once more into the hands of her sons. For this national movement were required a hero and a poet. Sivaji became the one, and Tukaram as naturally the other. Sivaji too himself, who owed much of his success to the fact that he a thorough Maharatta to the inmost core of his heart, contributed greatly to swell the poet's reputation, publicly testifying his admiration of his life and writings, and by the efforts which he made to draw the devotee to his side, and make him one of the ornaments of his rising court. These efforts were, however, unsuccessful. Tuka was at any rate sincere, and the magnificent *cortege* sent to convey him to the monarch's presence, brought back not the poet himself, but a long and earnest poem in which he expresses his contempt of worldly honours. Sivaji, it is said, was so moved by this poem that he contemplated becoming an ascetic himself, and actually went so far as to start on his journey for Tuka's hermitage.

We will conclude this sketch by a characteristic touch of asceticism in which our poet shows himself as ungallant as those Irish saints of whom we read in Moore's *Melodies*, but with better reason, since he was already married. A lady in his congregation, to use the modern phrase, became enamoured of him, as ladies in congregation are apt to become, but the affection of the simple Indian woman, instead of exhibiting itself in Berlin-wood slippers or altar-cloths, took the shape of plain-spoken declaration. The saint was very much shocked, and rebuked the indiscreet fair one.

EXAMPLES OF HOW CRIMINALS WERE PUNISHED IN MADRAS AND CALCUTTA IN 1795.

"The following examples of the severity of our Criminal Code ought to be remembered by all who wish to appreciate the labours of Romilly and Brougham. The sentences we must observe, were not passed by an Indian Magistrate in the interior, administering a barbarous relic of Mahomedan dominion without the aid of a barrister or the publicity of the press, but they emanated from learned Judges dealing out law as it would have been dealt out by Lord Kenyon or Lord Mansfield. Two natives "of the Gentoo caste" convicted of stealing in a dwelling-house at Madras, were executed; and the same fate was experienced on August 11, 1795, by five Portuguese and one Hindoo, convicted of burglary. They were hanged "at the meeting of four roads near the office of the Justices of the Peace," in the presence of a military guard of Englishmen and Sepoys, and "an immense concourse of people." About the same time one Lochan, stealing half a gold-piece and some silver ornaments, was publicly whipped in the Burra Bazar, and one Kanay Dey was also whipped from the south end to the same locality, and then back again. An Englishman for a like offence was similarly chastised, but privately, and all three prisoners suffered imprisonment besides. Two privates of the 3rd European battalion, for numerous robberies, were imprisoned for two years and burnt in the hand. At Bombay two native lads received each fifty lashes and stood in the pillory; and for the serious crimes of mutiny and sedition five Sepoys were blown away from guns, and three were hanged. Our catalogue ends with the Governor of Madras—a Lord Hobart then as now—under some judicial powers which the Executive exercises to this day in certain cases, sentencing a servant of the Nawab of the Carnatic to capital punishment for having ordered a man to be flogged to death. We gather, however, that in consideration of what the French term "*des circonstances atténuantes*," the extreme sentence was not carried out.—(*Saturday Review* of 1873, quoted by the *Indian Observer*.)

THE HISTORY OF THE BENGAL MEDICAL SCHOOLS, AND THE ORIGIN OF THE CALCUTTA MEDICAL COLLEGE.

Dr. Kenneth McLeod, in his official sketch of the history of the Bengal Medical Schools (forming appendix to the general Report of the Inspector-General of Hospitals) dwelt on the origin and progress of organized medical education in the Bengal Presidency. The *Indian Observer* of July 20, 1872, summarized the facts as follows:—

In the year 1822, the first Medical School of British India originated thus:—

“In a letter, dated 24th May, 1822, addressed to Colonel Casement, Secretary to the Government of India in the Military Department, the Medical Board drew attention to the “want of native doctors for the supply of the various establishments connected with the civil and military branches of the service,” and submitted a long memorandum on the “only plan likely in their judgment to remove the embarrassments thence arising.”

“The proposal of the Medical Board was highly approved by Government (Military Department letter No. 362, dated 24th May 1822), and the Board were requested to submit a more detailed scheme. The Government suggested that if the appointment of Superintendent were not constituted a separate one, Mr. Jameson, Secretary to the Board, should obtained it. The Board approved of the latter proposal, and submitted a detailed scheme of rules for the proposed medical school. The scheme drawn up was adopted by Government, and published as General Order, dated the 21st June 1822.

The institution was called “The School for native doctors,” the number of students limited to twenty; their qualifications,—good character, ability to read and write Hindustani in the Nagree or Persian character; age from 18 to 20. Hindus and Mussulmans were equally eligible; but the sons of native doctors were preferred. The students were to receive 8 sonat rupees a month, during the time of their education. When appointed as native doctors they were to receive Rs. 20 a month, and Rs. 25 in the field, and after two years’ approved service Rs. 25 and 30. After 7 years they were entitled to an invalid pension of Rs 7, a month, and after fifteen to Rs 10.

Surgeon James Jameson was appointed as Superintendent on a salary of Rs. 800 per month, and was allowed a Moonshi at Rs. 60, a writer at Rs. 30, and a peon at Rs. 5.

The school continued in existence till 1833, when a committee was appointed by Lord William Bentinck for the purpose of improving the constitution and extending the benefits of native medical education. The Report of the committee was presented to Government in October, 1834. On one point in particular the members of the committee were divided, namely, whether instruction should be imparted in the Indian Vernacular or in English. The Orientalists were represented and headed by Dr. Tytler, the Superintendent of the Native Medical Institution, and the Anglicists by the Rev. Dr. Duff. The latter party gained the day.

The Government General Order establishing the Calcutta Medical College is dated 28th January, 1835. Under it, Assistant-Surgeon Mr. J. Bramley became Superintendent, and a few days subsequently Dr. Henry Goodeve was appointed his Assistant, Pundit Mudhu Shudun Gupta being transferred from the Sanscrit College, and two Native Assistants being assigned to him.

The books and apparatus of the abolished institutions were made over to the new school, and the house lately occupied by the petty court Jail was adapted for its use. Anatomical preparations were obtained from England, and a Mr. Evans was appointed curator and directed to organize a museum. Before the end of 1835, the arrangements for teaching were found to be inadequate. Dr. Bramley was appointed principal, Dr. Henry Goodeve's title was changed from Assistant to the Superintendent to that of Professor, and Dr. William D'Shaughnessy, appointed as an Additional Professor. The business of the year commenced in earnest towards the close of 1835. Arrangements were made for the regular dissection of the human body under the supervision of Dr. Goodeve; and on the 10th January, 1836, Mudhu Shudun Gupta and a few courageous pupils dissected a human body. This act was commemorated by a portrait of Mudhu Shudun (presented to the school by Mr. Drinkwater Bethune, a member of the Supreme Council of India), which

now hangs in the large lecture theatre. Since the establishment of the Calcutta Medical College other similar institutions have been founded—The Agra Medical School in 1852, the Lahore Medical School in 1871, and the Nagpur Medical School in 1867.

RUNJIT SHING.

“The Ruler of Lahore is called Sukerchuka by his countrymen, from the name of the village in which his grandfather, a Sansoo Jat of the humblest origin, was born about the year 1730. This person whose name was Churru Shing, amidst the anarchy which prevailed in the Punjab joined a band of professed robbers, in 1755, and soon rose by his courage and talents to be a formidable Commander of outlaws. Having entered into a league with the Zemindars of Goorjarwalla, he made it his head-quarters and the depository of his booty. In 1761 Khawjan Obyd, the Governor of Lahore appointed by Ahmed Shah Abdali marched with a force to chastise Churru Shing, but was defeated. Churru Shing now undisturbed by the Afghans, began that system of unscrupulous acquisition which has distinguished all his descendants. Having interfered between the Rajah of Jammu and his son, he was killed by the bursting of a matchlock in the 45th year of his age. He left a territory yielding a revenue of 3 lakhs of rupees a year. He was succeeded by his only son Muha Sing, a boy of 16 years of age. In his 17th year he murdered his mother and died while besieging, with intent to plunder his brother-in-law, at the age of 27, in 1792.”

Runjit Shing, the son of Muha was born in 1780, and succeeded his father in his twelfth year. His guardian were his mother and Sudda Kour, a lady of greater note to whose daughter he was married. Runjit Shing, who had lost an eye from small-pox, when an infant, was allowed to grow up uneducated. At the age of 17, he leagued with Sudda Kour and dismissed his mother with all her ministers from authority. It was through the intrigues of Sudda Kour, Runjit continued to take possession of Lahore; from the 3 Shik Sirdars in 1799 to whom he allowed the possession of their own lands as jaigirs. Having thus become an undisputed master

of the Punjaub, he annexed Pathankote, on the plea of settling a quarrel between its Rajah and his son. He gave the deposed Rajah a village in *Jaigir*. In the same way he dispossessed the Hill Rajah of Nurpore who came on a friendly visit to him.

The Padsha or King as he now began to call himself suspected one of his queens, the daughter of Sudda Kour of infidelity, and an anecdote on the subject affords an illustrative example of Sheik delicacy. About 9 months after their final separation the lady apprized her husband that she had been happily delivered of twin boys: one of whom is Shere Shing and the other is called Tara Shing. Runjit seems to have taken no notice of the event at the time, but some years afterwards when dandling the children on his knees, in full durbar, he treated the courtiers with such pleasantries as these:—"It was a pretty trick of the old Kour to make my wife call these boys mine; why look you, this little fellow was the son of a weaver, and this one of carpenter, who would take them for princes (Shazadah ?)" Kurruk Shing, son by another Rani, and elder than the foregonig is the heir apparent of Lahore.

Having become master of almost all the petty States to the north of the Sutledge, he was preparing to dispossess the Sheik Chiefs between that river and the Jumna. They applied to the British Government for protection in 1808 when Mr. (afterwards Sir) Charles Metcalfe was appointed envoy to negotiate with the Lion of the Panjab. The mission was first received at Kuson, with every exterior mark of respect, but negotiations had scarcely begun when the Maharajah struck camp and marched at the head of an Army, across the Sutledge and took possession of Fureedkote and other districts as far as Amballa. To this policy of aggression, Mr. Metcalfe protested, and sent a detachment under Colonel Ochterlony to support the invaded States. At length a treaty was concluded between the British Government and the Ruler of the Punjab. In 1805 Runjit had under his banner 29 independent Chiefs and 32 Jaigirdars. His own Force, besides, 10,000 Cavalry, consisted of 900 Artillerymen, and five battalions of sepoys. Runjit Shing first attacked Multan in 1810, and in 1813 the

Sheiks obtained possession of the Fort of Attock. In the month of May, 1814, Runjit commenced preparations for the conquest of Cashmere. The second expedition against Cashmere set out in 1829. In 1812, the Queens of Shah Sujah and Zeman Shah of Kabul took refuge in his Court. He then with the assistance of Fatty Khan conquered Cashmere, and liberated Shah Shujah from whom he extorted the celebrated diamond "KOHINOOR." (*Delhi Gazette*, 1838:)

THE CALCUTTA POLICE COURT A HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

The *Indian Observer* in a leading article under the above heading, described the different modes of punishment prevalent in those days. "Rattans" and "slippers" were at that time, said the writer, the favourite means of administering correction to offenders." Occasionally this *regime* was varied by confinement in the "Hurring Barry," by small fines, by a process which is described as turning over the water,* and by being "tom-tomed†" round the town.

Lord Ferres, as we know, was hanged in the last century with a silken cord, in order to satisfy the aristocratic prejudices of the time. In the same spirit persons of family were exempted from corporal punishment in Calcutta. "Ram Kishore Kago (*sic*) against Ramjoy for beating and abusing him, proved by three witnesses, Ram Joy being a person of some family and therefore not a subject for corporal punishment—ordered to be fined five rupees." !!!

These were the halcyon days of old Calcutta in the latter end of the seventeenth century!

CREATION OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

We read the following in the *Friend of India* of July 30th. 1863:—

"The *Madras Daily News* published the despatch of the Court of Directors dated 23rd Aug. 1751—six years before Plassey—

* The phrase might signify a good "ducking," or something of that nature.

† Crime was proclaimed by beat of tom-tom.

creating Fort St. George. They speak in the highest terms of Stringer Lawrence, Esq., to whom they gave a seat at the Board on the left hand of the Governor Thomas Saunders Esq., and appointed Commander-in-Chief. In the same and subsequent despatch the Directors say:—

“Our intention were to have given you and our Settlement upon the West Coast a good supply of slaves. They then warned the President and Council to take better care of the health of these slaves to look after their health and to treat them “with more care and humanity for the future” !!!

THE HISTORY OF THE CASE OF PSEUDO RAJA PROTAP CHAND IN 1838.

He was the son of Shyamlal Brahmacharee of Ghurnee, a village in the suburbs of Krishnaghur. The following is a copy of the charge against him. 1st Count. Aluk Shah, *alias* Raja Protap Ch under, *alias* Kristo Lall Pauree, Brahmacharee is charged with gross fraud and imposture, in falsely and fraudulently assuming the name of the deceased Maharaja Dhiraj Protap Chand, and pretending in various places, during the last two years, to the great disturbance of the general peace of the country, and in obtaining money from various individuals, and more particularly from Babu Radha Kishen Bysak, Dewan of the Government Treasury in Calcutta.

2nd Count. And he is further charged with having, in furtherance of the fraudulent pretences above mentioned, instigated and prevailed on diverse subjects of the British Government and others, to the number of 300 or more, unlawfully and tumultuously assembled at Calna, in the Burdwan District, from the 13th April, 1838, to the 2nd of May, 1838, and with having set at defiance the constituted authorities of the district of Burdwan, he the said Aluk Shah having previously, on the 4th of August, 1836, been convicted of a similar offence before the Sessions Court of Hoogly.—(*Hurk*, Nov. 9, 1838.)

HIS IDENTITY.

The following evidence disclosed some facts about his identity:—

Babu Ram Gopal Mukherjee, an inhabitant of Goari, (the northern portion of the town of Krishnaghur) who became afterwards Government pleader deposed to the identity of the prisoner.

He stated, that a Brahmin told him that strong measures were being taken to insure Kristo Lal becoming a Raja. The Brahmin told him that, if Kristo Lal got the Burdwan Raj, he (Ram Gopal Mukherjee) would be appointed as a dewan. Kristo Lal's father used to say that his son would be a Rajah. He (Babu R. G. Mukherji) was a toll Daroga in Goaree in 1833, when he was suspended by a man named Lame Maguaie, his official superior for the decrease in the revenue derived from the tolls on navigation on the Nuddea Rivers. Since that time the post of toll Darogaship was abolished, and the control of these tolls was vested in a European Superintendent. Babu Dwarkanath Tagore in his evidence stated that the pretender was not real Protap Chand.

EVIDENCE OF RAM CHUNDER BISWAS.

Babu Ram Chunder Biswas of Ghurnee, a village in the Suburbs of Krishnaghur, the Head-quarter station of the Nuddea District stated "that, Kristo Lal was his class-fellow. They read together in a school which was held in Ram Komul and Ram Tonu Bhaduri's house. He then stated that "we left the school in 1825 or 26. We were then of about 16 or 17 years of age. After that Kristo Lal studied Shastras under Hurro Bhattacharji and Bhoirub Bhattacharji. Kristo Lal learnt English. He identified the prisoner as Kristo Lal. Ram Tonu Bhadury of Ghurnee stated that the prisoner was like Kristo Lal, but his colour was not so clear as that of Kristo Lal. Ishur Chuuder Chatterji of the same village swore to the fact that the prisoner was Kristo Lal. Muddun Chuckerbutty and Gunga Gobind Bauerji made a similar statements.

Prem Chand Banerji, Nazir of the Magistrate's Court stated, that he came to Krishnaghur in 1823 with Mr. Macfarlan, and in 1825 was employed as a Daroga. In 1831 he was promoted to the office of Nazir by Mr. Piploe Smith. He identified the prisoner.

CASE OF THE SOI-DISANT RAJAH OF BURDWAN.

Before Mr. E. A. Samuells, Offg., Magistrate of Hugly.

SEPT. 1, 1838.

Mr. C. Trower was examined. He said that pseudo Protap was not the real Protap. Mr. H. P. Prinsep, a Secretary to the Government of India said that he did know Rajah Protap about the years 1817 or 18, that the present claimant was not the real Protap. He did not recollect whether Protap died in 1820 or 21. In 1821, he was Secretary to the Government in the Persian Department.

MR. JAMES PATTLE,

Senior Member of the Board of Revenue said that when he came to Calcutta in 1813, Rajah Protap used to pay him visits often of ceremony. The pretender was not the real Rajah. Mr. Hutchinson, a Judge of the Sudder Court said the same. He also deposed to the fact that Rajah Protap died either in December 1820, or in January 1821. A Persian letter of condolence was sent by him. He reported his death from his tent in Catwa. He decided a suit of partnership between the widows of Rajah Protap Chand and Rani Komul Kumari in favour of the widows.

DR. DANIEL OVERBECH,

said that he was a Governor of Chinsurah under the Dutch Government from 1817 to 1826, and that the present claimant was not the real Rajah.

MR. GREGORY HERKLOTS,

stated that he was lately a Sudder Amin of Hughly. From 1789 to 1795, he was a writer on the Dutch establishment. In 1807 he entered the British Service, and became an Assistant to the Commissioner.

In 1818 he applied for a sudder Aminship. In 1825 when the Dutch Settlement was made over to the British, he was a Sudder Amin. He also denied the identity of the present claimant. Rajah Buddi Nath stated in his evidence that when he saw the pretender in the Hughly Jail, he (the pretender) could not mention all the particulars about the Khelut presented to Rajah Protap Chand. The mob in the course of the trial was greatly excited. They were in favour of the pretender. Rajah Buddinath was pelted and pelted for having given, as was supposed by the crowd, a false evidence. The Rev. W. J. Deere, a missionary of Krishnagur, who had known Kristo Lal Brahmacharee since 1838, took the prosecution some what aback, by the unexpected declaration that, to the best of his recollection the prisoner was not that individual. He also said that he recommended Kristo Lal to Mr. Battye, Magistrate of Krishnagur for a Darogaship, but the Magistrate thought him to be unfit as he was a ring leader of robbers.

GUNGA PROSAD TEWARY.

A brahmin of Jessore stated that he knew Kristo Lal Pharu. He was his female cousin's son.

The name of the defendant is Kristo Lal Phauru, son of Shyam Lal Phauru. I have not seen him for the last 5 or 6 years. He was an omedwar in the Courts of Krishnaghur and Burdwan. I heard that he had obtained a purwanah to act as a Daroga in Santipur. While at Burdwan he lived in the house of Ram Chunder Mitter of the Burdwan Collectorate. Kristo Lal had two brothers, Gour Lal and Roop Lal and both are dead. I heard Gour Lal was called Chota Huzur. His mother died a year ago. His mother's name was Munnah. He had his maternal uncles viz : Shib Prosad Tewary, Modun Tewary, Fakeer Chand Tewary and Sorup Tewary.

A PADRI TALOOK AT BACKERGUNGE.


The *Indian Observer* in its issue of Nov., 9, 1872, stated that "at Shibpore near the old Head-quarters of the District, there is a Roman Catholic colony. The Catholic Mission possesses a taluk made over to it by Rajah Rajbullub Sen. To control the refractory Hindu and Mahomedan ryots, he sought the assistance of Christians at Bandel. For their assistance, he gave a taluk which is still borne on the rent-roll of the Burrisal District."

MR. DANLY SEYMOUR,

visited India in 1854 as the accredited agent of the Indian Reform Association. Like George Thompson, he declined the offer of the British Government to examine their official records, went into the interior of the Madras Presidency, to ascertain from the people their real grievances. He was accompanied by Mr. Luchmon Parsu Chetty, proprietor of the *Madras Crescent*, and the great supporter of Mr. Malcolm Lewin in his attacks upon Lord Tweedale and the "proselytizing" Administration. He was also accompanied by an East Indian connected with the office of the *Madras Atheneum*. He demanded Rs. 50,000 for the expenses of the Association. (*F. I.* June. 12. 1854.)

WORKS BY THE SAME.

| | Rs. | As. |
|--|-----|-----|
| 1.— Life of Hon'ble Rai Kristo Das Pal Bahadur, C.I.E., (few copies available) | 2 | 0 |
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